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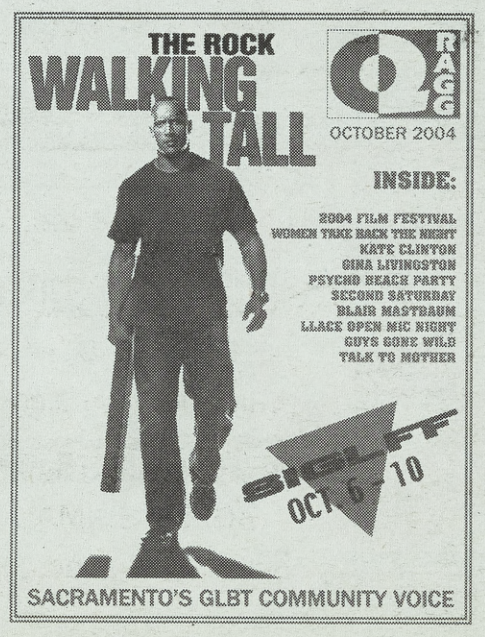
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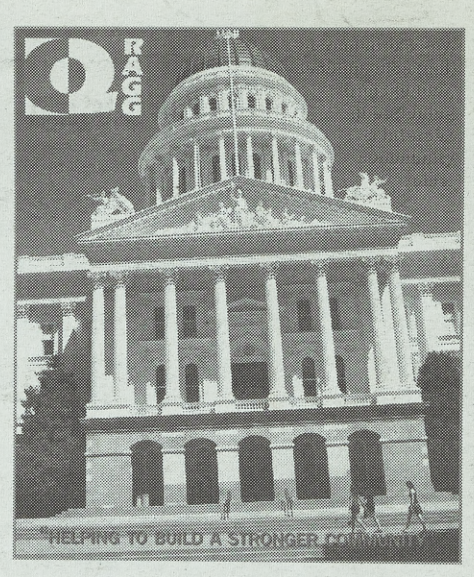


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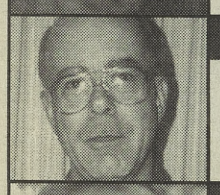

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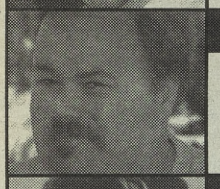
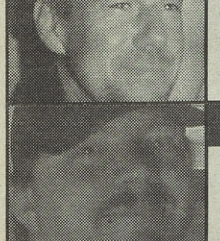
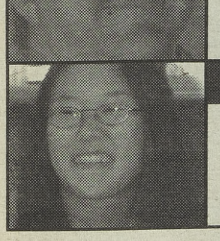
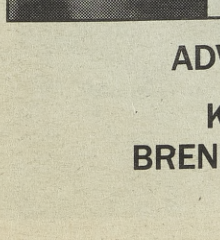

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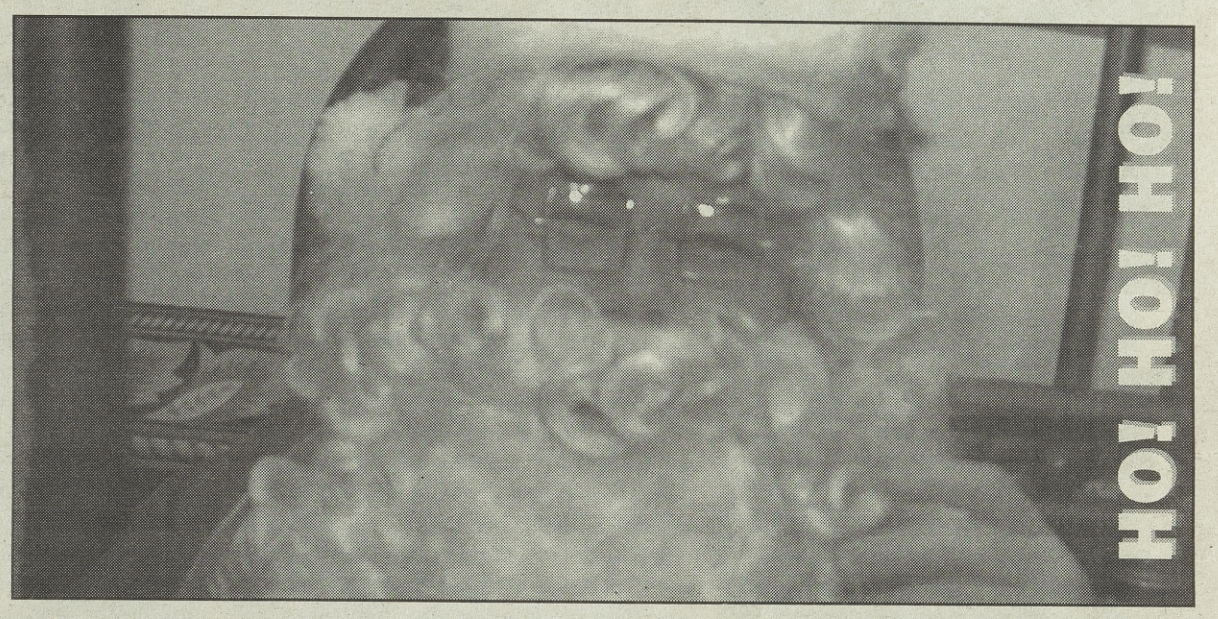

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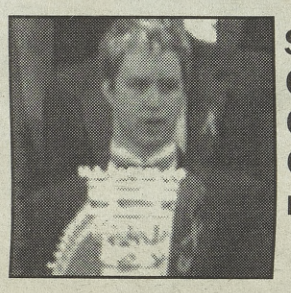
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



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SWANNER & JUDD REVIEW *KINSEY*, *ALEXANDER* AND THE BRITISH ZOMBIE SPOOF *SHAUN OF THE DEAD*
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CORRECTION

IN THE NOVEMBER 8, 2004 EDITION, THE LETTER TO THE EDITOR ENTITLED "CAP/PAC COUPLE" WAS WRITTEN BY LOYAL READER AND Q-MUNITY MEMBER MATTHEW A. LLOYD, NOT MATTHEW C. LLOYD. SORRY MATTHEW!

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Happy Holidays?



LARRY MCFALL
PUBLISHER

The holiday season is especially hard for me this year. I lost my mother on November 19, 2003, so this is the second year that I have had to celebrate the holidays without her. Last year she passed so close to the holidays, that they went by without the reality of my loss fully hitting me. This year it's like someone dropped a ton of bricks on me right when I was starting to celebrate. I used to look forward to the Christmas shows like *A Christmas Carol*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Rudolph* and of course *It's a Wonderful Life*. This year, as much as I want to watch them, I don't know if I can make it through any of them without thinking of my mom. I just hear someone talking about their mother on TV and I cry just thinking of my mom and how much I really miss her.

I'm not writing this to depress everyone, I am just hoping that this will make you think hard about your own family, whether by blood or by situation, and how much they mean to you. One of the hardest things I have ever done was coming out to my mother and father. I wasn't worried about telling my 10 brothers and sisters, all my nieces and nephews, or my friends; I figured that if they couldn't accept who I am then to hell with them, but I couldn't lose my parents love—that, more then anything, meant the world to me, and I was afraid telling them would hurt our relationship beyond repair. To my amazement, my parents were terrific when I came out to them. They were upset at first and cried, but I was still their baby and nothing was going to change that.

Some family members were upset that I told my parents, saying that there was no reason to upset them, and I was selfish, doing it for my peace of mind and not theirs. While this was true to some extent, I'm still much happier knowing that my mother knew who her son was before she died, and that she loved me.

I still talk to my dad at least once a week, and now that the holidays are here, I call even more often just to say hello. At 87 years old, my dad is not a big talker. Conversations mostly revolve around the weather, health and other topical tidbits. He told me the other day that he likes when I call, just to hear the sound of my voice. I'm finding that making those calls a little more often seem to make me happier as well, especially in these winter months.

I miss the celebrating the holidays the way we did when I was a kid; the whole family would come together for Thanksgiving or Christmas. We seldom were able to arrange both as my married brothers and sisters would have to alternate between in-laws.

I grew up with a house full of family, and a Christmas tree with presents underneath. The house was always decked out with lots of lights and garland, and usually a wreath hanging on the front door. This year there are no decorations at all. Each Christmas I would sit with my mom, sisters and sister in-laws, making the newest ornament or craft items that we found and have re-created, (they should have known I was gay back then). One year we would make snowmen out of coffee cans, or tin soldiers from clay pots. We were always making homemade toffee and cookies to put in tins to give to the neighbors and friends. We all loved to get together for the holiday feast too. We'd cook up the usual dinner with turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and all the rest. Food has always been a big part of our family life.

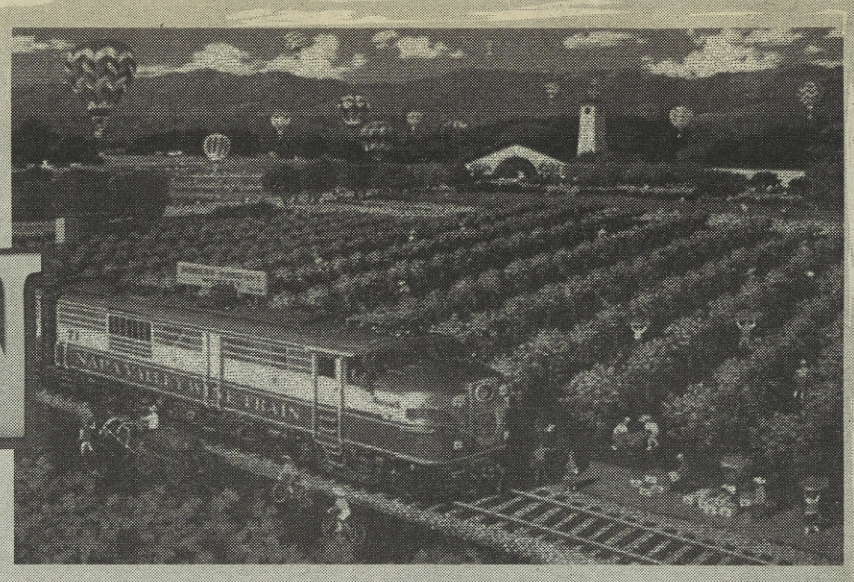
As I, as well as my nieces and nephews, got older, each of my siblings made holiday traditions of their own, and it was mainly my brother Leo and my sister Dorothy, both of whom were also single, that spent all their holidays with mom and dad. We still got the occasional visit from some of the other siblings and their families, but it was now the day after Thanksgiving, or sometime between Christmas and New Years that they would stop in. The days of the whole family getting together were over when I was still pretty young—that happens when you're the youngest of 11 kids. But regardless where the rest of them where, I was always home, safe and sound with my mom and dad.

I could ramble on about all the holidays gone by forever, always with a smile and a sentimental lump in my throat. But this year, I can barely get myself to watch the holiday commercials that have been popping up since the week before Halloween. I know it will get easier as time passes; that I will come to celebrate my memories of the holidays with my mother, rather than be upset remembering them.

SO WHEN YOU GO HOME TO YOUR FAMILY THIS YEAR, TAKE SOME TIME TO TELL THE ONES YOU CARE ABOUT JUST HOW MUCH YOU LOVE THEM, BUT DON'T DO IT JUST BECAUSE IT IS THE HOLIDAY SEASON. TELL THEM BECAUSE YOU MEAN IT. THEY NEED TO KNOW. WE ALL NEED TO KNOW WHEN WE ARE LOVED. KEEP THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAYS IN YOUR HEART YEAR 'ROUND AND TELL THEM AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN. CHERISH THE TIME YOU HAVE WITH THEM, BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN THAT WILL BE TAKEN FROM YOU, AND FOR THOSE THAT HAVE LOST A PARENT, FAMILY MEMBER OR THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE IN YOUR LIFE, JUST KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOT ALONE. ONE DAY SOON, GIVEN TIME YOU'LL BE ABLE TO ENJOY YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS SHOW AGAIN, I KNOW I LOOK FORWARD TO THAT DAY.

AND FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO STILL HAVE A MOM, GIVE HER AN EXTRA HUG FOR ALL THOSE WHO CAN'T HUG THEIR OWN MOMS THIS CHRISTMAS.

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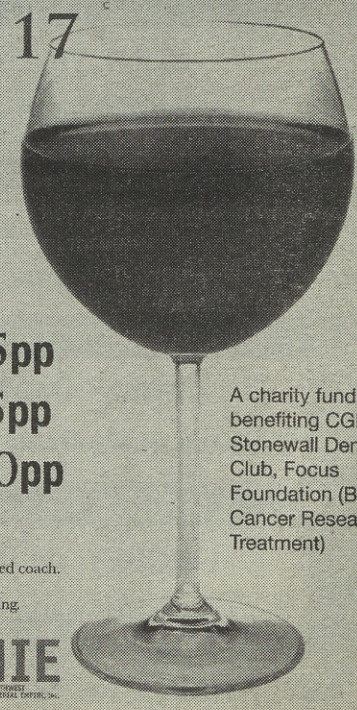
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Shall We dance?

By Ricky Diaz Anaya/Q-Ragg

IMAGINE YOURSELF IN A PLACE WHERE YOU MEET STRANGERS AND NOW THOSE STRANGERS HAVE BECOME A PART OF YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE. You gather twice a week for an hour or two of dancing and share the celebration of life. I now call these strangers dear friends." says Jonesy, a student.

Extraordinary describes the Sacramento Dancesport Project. Instructors Kilee Cooper and Camille Wojtasiak founded Sacramento Dancesport in 2001. It is one of the few organizations in the United States to provide a full curriculum of dance instruction for same sex dancers. Camille met Kilee, an instructor, when she requested learning to lead in a primarily heterosexual dance school. Now they are good friends, competitive dance partners, and run the Dancesport Project together.

If you weren't lucky enough to catch a performance by the two, when you do, you can expect to see nothing less than a breathtaking feat. As Camille and Kilee take position on the dance floor and begin to motion to a Waltz or Latin beat, you can feel the temperature in the room rising and heads staring in anticipation. Their bodies work their way around the floor in that passionate way as the dance demands. The looks the dancers share with each other and the way their bodies interact tell the story of desire, lust, catch-me-if-you-can.

What once started out as a hobby in teaching family and friends, soon blossomed into a successful niche business. Today, between classes and private instruction there are over 80 students. Kilee and Camille, and now Jaime (Kilee's sister) teach many dances including the Waltz, Quickstep, West Coast Swing, Fox Trot, Viennese Waltz and a full array of Latin styles too; Rumba, Cha-Cha, Salsa, Tango, and Paso Doble.

RECENTLY, CAMILLE AND KILEE PLACED AS HIGH AS THIRD PLACE IN SAME SEX DANCING IN INTERNATIONAL LATIN STYLE IN BERLIN, GERMANY; 2004. KILEE AND CAMILLE PRACTICE NEW ROUTINES FOR UPCOMING COMPETITIONS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND ABROAD.

Their next same sex competition will be held in London in February 2005. Ten Dancesport students, Camille, Kilee, and Jaime will be participating. Camille and Kilee will be competing in International Latin which includes Samba, Cha-Cha, Paso Doble, Jive, and Rumba.

In addition, students who choose to can elect to take a performance level course and participate in shows that showcase routines learned in the previous months. The most recent show was "A Halloween Thriller" held recently on October 30th. This event showcased performances by the instructors and students and are usually sold out months in advance to a crowded amphitheater.

At the Halloween thriller, attendees were treated to ten different performances. Most were Halloween themed music and choreography, featuring students dressed in ghoul, phantom, and goblin outfits they put together themselves. It's sorta like a big kid Halloween for adults.

Entertaining, especially, was the Bond Medley where Camille (as James Bond) and several hot dancers pranced around vying for attention. During a brief moment in the catch-me-if-you can "Bond" routine, Camille coyly pauses mid stage standing near a table ever so sophisticated and begins to pour herself a Martini as the crowd went wild!

The grand finale was a rendition of "*Thriller*". Where you saw amazing costumes of the walking dead dancing around and Kilee (as Michael Jackson) leading the pack dressed in the infamous red with black stripes jacket and donning a full Geri Curl.

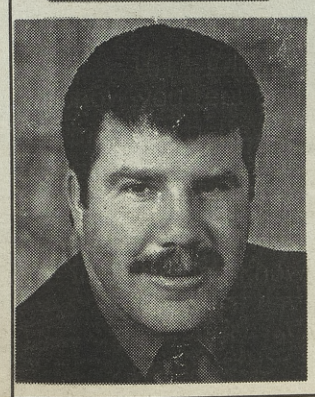
Students interested in taking formal dance classes for a variety of reasons;

"I wanted to get out of the house and learn how to dance. I'm not a very good dancer but after a while, I was actually amazed at how easily I picked up the steps and soon began moving in a way my body had never experienced before," confessed one student

In the Introduction to Social Dance class, students can expect to learn the basics for Cha-Cha, Rumba, Jive, Tango, Waltz, and Quick Step. While at first, it may seem impossible to learn even one style of dance, each lesson builds upon the previous. In December, this class will be held each Wednesday at Faces between 6-7pm. Of particular interest to the LGBT community, same sex dance is a place for all to feel safe in learning with others whether you come alone or with a partner.

Dancesport Project's next performance "Everything Dances; show and dance" will be held Saturday March 26, 2005 at the Masonic Temple at 7pm. Special Guest performances by same sex dancers Petra Zimmermann and Caroline Privou from Koln, Germany and Boris Ostrowski and Frank Roepke from Berlin, Germany. As always, you will be treated to performances by the instructors and students alike.

To purchase tickets for the upcoming event; Contact Sacramento Dancesport Project at www.sacdancesport.com, email; Sacdancesport@aol.com, or call: at 916 359-5229.



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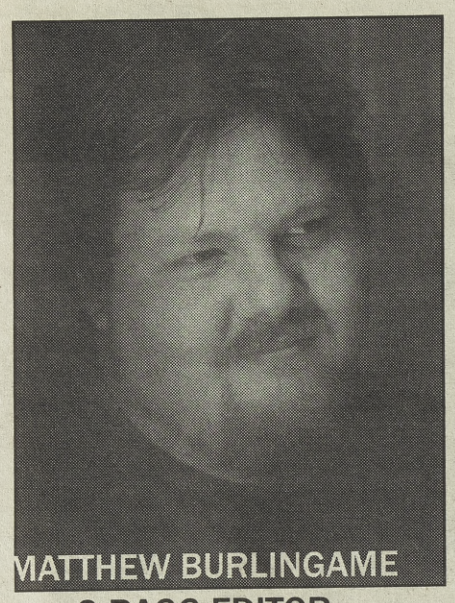
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MATTHEW BURLINGAME
Q-RAGG EDITOR

Letting Go...

IT WAS 1:08AM. I WAS IN BED WINDING DOWN FROM ANOTHER HECTIC PRODUCTION WEEK AT THE Q-RAGG. THAT FOR ME IS STAYING UP LATE, CHOWIN' DOWN SOME POPCORN AND WATCHING WILL AND GRACE ON DVD THAT TOM AND THE BOYS GOT ME FOR MY BIRTHDAY. I WAS LAUGHING SO HARD AT ONE EPISODE, THE SANDMAN WASN'T LIKELY TO LOOK ME UP ANYTIME SOON. THEN THE PHONE RANG. CALLS AT 1:08AM ARE SELDOM GOOD. THIS WAS NO EXCEPTION.

"This is Connie from Mountain Valley Care, is this Matthew?" "Yes." "I just wanted to let you know Beverly *passed away about an hour ago. We didn't think she was going to go tonight, but we checked on her and she just stopped breathing. Do you have any questions for me?"*

Do I have any questions? Yeah, um, how come you sound like a 15-year-old valley girl cheerleader while you're telling me my grandmother just died? It was the call I had been dreading in the back of mind for some time now.

After I hung up the phone I sat in a sort of stunned silence wondered if she had been alone when she died. She was always afraid of not being with family when the time came. As I pondered this question...I began to clean the kitchen. I had this uncontrollable desire to reorganize the entire kitchen then and there and nothing was going to stop me from it.

As I threw out old food items I knew were past expiration, trashed my set of microwave-warped forrest green plastic IKEA plates (apparently microwaving on plastic now causes cancer anyway), I expected the tears to start flowing any moment. To my surprise, they didn't.

When I was satisfied there was nothing more to throw out or shift from one cupboard to the other, I sat at the computer and emailed everyone in the family I could. Nice thing to wake up to. That morning I had to tell my mother that her mother died. She took it as best she could. As I heard her voice crack, I expected mine to waver as well. It didn't.

The next morning, the whirlwind of the burial preparation began. The cremation, the funeral home trying to snowjob mourners with bogus fees, burial permits, cemetery arrangements, death certificates...I have no clue how these TV show characters are able to have next day services when I couldn't get a cremation done in three days. Then since she lived out of state I was then told to expect her ashes in the mail. $17.50 first class. "Is that your package from Ebay, honey?" "No, it's my grandmother."

Over the next week my cousin Christy—the only family member, other than my mother, that I keep in touch with—became my right hand. Together we managed to get things in order. As we rode to the cemetery plot in Rocklin to make arrangements, I convinced her to take a side trip to the farmhouse in Granite Bay where I spent the first 10 years of my life. This house is where the earliest memories of my grandmother live, and where family ghosts still haunt my memories.

This is the part where I have to stop and fill in a few basic facts about my granny. First and foremost, she was a very unhappy person for most of her life. Whether manic depression, or just having been born with screw loose, she more often then not was the central cause of drama for our family.

Growing up pursuing a stage career, she was married at 16, pregnant at 19 and divorced at 21. Got a teacher's certificate, a second husband who was a jackass, and a quick annulment. The love of her life was husband number three, the father of her two sons and even more cuckoo than she was. After a fourth husband who used his exterminator business as a front to pilfer merchandise from department stores, she settled into a number of steady affairs and living in her parents farmhouse in Granite Bay, which back then was a rural area with acres of open land, creeks and ponds and plenty of places for kids to explore on a lazy Saturday afternoon.

A year later I came along. And the woman who told my mother she resented being a grandmother at only 38 was the woman I came to worship those first years of my life. And for some reason I never took to calling her "Grandma", Instead, I called her "Bah."The name stuck and soon it was what the whole family called her.

But Bah was no ordinary grandmother, she was a loud, man-hungry, attention-seeking woman who spent every moment after her job drunk on vodka and Fresca, until the end of the month when Thunderbird became the poison of choice. and when she drank, she was MEAN! Some of her drinking stories are legend in my family—standing in the front yard firing a shotgun off over a man's head—dressing up in a wig and disguise to catch her married boyfriend cheating on her with another woman. Oh, yes, her life was the stuff gay torch is famous for. But to me, she was my "Bah" who always smiled when I was with her.

Now after those stories, one would think we were white trash. Far from it. Half the family was civic-minded Northeasterners and the other half pioneer families that settled most of Northern California—and both came together to produce this one loose rung on the family ladder. But I loved her with all my heart...until I hit puberty.

It was then that life for my family was vastly different. Everyone had scattered to the wind after my great grandparents had died and Bah. my mother and I went from farmhouse to homeless in the matter of a year. This was also the period where she traded drunken attention for the attention of chronic poor health and prescription drugs. It was also the period when I was downgraded from the role of treasured grandson to that of a kindred spirit with Christina Crawford. Everyday became a real life Granny Dearest. I tolerated this behavior as most children do, internalizing it owning it rather than placing the blame where it belonged. That is until I was 15 and in one of her more crazy dramatic moments, I stood up for myself and told her no. the more I refused, the wilder she got until I was running up the stairs of the ghetto house we were renting as she chased me with a steak knife in hand. That was the straw that broke in the camel's hymen. Never again would I look on her the same way. She was no longer "Bah"

Abuse, whether physical or mental becomes routine for many until it's just another part everyday life. We lived with my grandmother on and off—mostly on—over the next six years. It was six years of hell, which included my coming out when she told my mother to "go in there and tell him not to be that way! Do you want a fag for a son?" Both my mother and I accepted that we were trash and that without her, we couldn't survive. Until one shining day when my uncle was living with us and granny pushed a bit to far. I was the one who broke the news to her that my mother and I were moving out onto our own. It was if a curse had been broken.

Independence day would be March 1, 1991. No matter how much she told us we wouldn't make it, we did. It wasn't always easy, but we did. She lived with my uncle for about eight months before he left her with his ex-wife and moved out. She stayed there for a year until her other son swooped in like a winged horse and carried his poor ailing mother to Idaho to live with him and his new wife. They lasted two months before they put her in a care home and moved out of state with no forwarding address. And at that care home she lived the last seven years of her life. No family, No old friends. And no one whose sympathies could be played on to get her way. I was the only family member who would call, other than the occasional times my mother could muster up the emotional strength. Each call started out pleasant, and ended with a guilt trip and the reminder that I was a bad person for making her stay there. And on some level, I bought into it...but not enough.

And now back to the present and me sitting in an SUV with my cousin staring at the house I grew up in. It was...small. And the new owners redid everything in country kitsch, from shutters to window seats to the flowers in what was left in the front yard. And the entire ranch was now one solid single-story housing project with one rebuilt, two-story ranch house stuck in the middle. All the trees were gone, the creek paved over, the small pond fenced off. And somewhere, behind all the newly installed picture windows and light yellow aluminum siding, was buried all those dark, disturbing, constantly haunting memories that had followed me all these years. And just like that, I let them go. It was such an emotional release, I thought I was going to end up bawling right there in front of my cousin. But I didn't.

Several days passed and I began getting back in the swing of everyday life while I left christy to deal with the remaining paperwork. I was working on this december issue when there was a knock on the door. It was the mailperson asking me to sign for package. I did unthinkingly and as she handed me the package, I noticed the return address: Shoshone Funeral Home. A wave of heat and nausea washed over me as I realized I was holding the ashes of my grandmother. It was her, physically—the remainder of what she was—and after seven years I was reunited with it...holding it. Chills zipped up my spine as I set the box on the counter. Now, I am not normally a squemish person, but if I ever came close to going over the edge—this was it. And what was worse, I had to open the box to retrieve paperwork, and there was ash residue on the outside of the black metal box. I set the box on the very top of my desk in my livingroom and after washing my hands, I haven't touched it since. My mother told me it was OK to cry, but I didn't.

Of all places to reflect on my lack of emotions over the past few weeks, I was sitting at the back bar of the Merc on Thanksgiving night, half reliving the past, half stealing glances of the bartender's butt. I must have made a pretty sad impression because just as I was about to leave, a man came up to me, introduced himself and proceeded to give me a long tight hug. Being the frigid bitch I am, it took me a moment to return the hug. As I did, he then planted his lips on mine and stuck his tongue down my throat. Who says the boys at the Merc aren't friendly? And as I left with my friends who began ribbing me, for the first time in weeks I laughed again as I had that night I was watching *Will & Grace*. Thanks for that, whoever you were.

I got home, got back to work on this issue and then noticed a package from the care home that had come the day before. I opened it and began looking through the remaining possessions of my grandmother's life. A postcard collection, a stack of old family photos in disarray, a letter about how in the past seven years she had been volunteering in the care home with the activities director. She read aloud to people on Sundays, she attended all the services for longterm patients, she lead activities and she even had a dog for most of her time there. My guilt of not having her here manipulating us on a daily basis was replaced with the knowledge that there, she was active, she was respected, she was well cared for, and most of all, she was loved. They were her family. She may never have been able to understand the concept of a self-made family the way we in the GLBT community often do, but the people there were her family, and she was with them when she passed. She wasn't alone.

Placing everything back in the box, I found a picture of her taken just a few months before. She was sitting in her chair, dressed in a flowing red dress, wearing her costume jewelry, full make-up and damned if her hair wasn't as bright head as it had been when she was 16. She was also 100 pounds thinner and she was smiling a genuinely happy smile—the kind of smile that lights up your whole being—and something I hadn't seen since I was a child following her around the house just to be near her. And then is when it hit me; my Bah was gone. And finally...I cried. I forgave. and I cried.

Attention Ladies and Gentlemen...

By Ricky Diaz Anaya/Q-Ragg

Music by Joey and co-sponsors present the 5th Annual Gayla Ball; An evening of benefit for breast cancer awareness.

On Saturday November 13th 2004 over two hundred women and several men dressed in their best tuxedos and gowns at the historic Masonic Temple. Those who attended, mostly Lesbians, were there to raise the much needed funds in the fight against breast cancer.

This year Save Ourselves; A Breast Cancer Organization of Sacramento was elected to receive a percentage of all ticket sales. Save Ourselves was founded in 1991 and is a community-based nonprofit organization that provides services to those affected by cancer free of cost. These services include; education, survivorship mentoring, bi-monthly support groups with professionally trained counselors in English and Spanish. Save Ourselves also staffs a 24 hour hotline (916 448-5432 or 1 800 422-9747) to provide support for those who are newly diagnosed and would like to speak to a breast cancer survivor.

Joey Claytor decided six years ago that she would like to provide a safe space for LGBT women and their friends to attend a formal event where "they can hold hands, dance, and enjoy the company of others. It's like a prom many never got to attend. And the best part is it raises awareness within the community about breast cancer." The very next year she was able to produce the 1st Annual Gayla Ball and for next year, Music by Joey Productions hopes to become copy-written and attain non-profit status.

During dinner, attendees were treated to an exceptional performance by Sacramento Dancesport Project, the nations largest same-sex dance instruction company here in Sacramento, which included Waltz and Latin dance routines. In addition, numerous prizes for guests were donated from organizations such as Hot Rod's Café, Inn at Parkside, Monarchs, Curves for Women, Tuxedo Den, among many others.

An eager crowd quickly gathered around the stage as the MC called for participants in the Best Gown and Best Tuxedo contests. At least thirty women in gowns faced the crowd, as the MC called upon each woman to walk center stage and strut her stuff. Cheers and applause narrowed the pick down to a handful of contestants, until a clear winner emerged. For gown, a tall slender woman whom made her gown with an oriental theme won. For the Tuxedo contest, at least 40 women pranced around until the crowd and judges also picked a woman whom wore a traditional tuxedo with top hat, cane, white gloves and all. This part of the event was very energetic and definitely entertaining.

Lastly, a best couple contest. There were couples of all ages, sizes, colors, and gender. The clear winner emerged as an adorable bi-racial male couple that have been regular attendees at the gala in years past.

A large area dedicated to gaming was ready when the curtains were pulled where you could play your luck to roulette, craps, or black jack. The best part of all was that you were entitled to complimentary chips to help you get started. Nearby in a corner was photographer Jill Wagner with her professional backdrop stage and long line of attendees waiting to have their pictures taken while looking their best.

Next year, 6th Annual Gayla Ball will be held at the same location in November 2006 and Save Ourselves will be sponsored for the next three years. You can expect gaming, prizes, dancing, dining, and special guests to entertain.

Music by Joey Productions can be reached at 916 410-1327 or email; JOEYCLAYTOR@aol.com. Save Ourselves can be reached at 916 448-5432 or saveourselves@sbcglobal.net. www.save-ourselves.org.



Best Dress winner



Joey Claylor and Virgie



Best Tux winner



Enjoying the evening



Deal dem cards!



Lady Luck holds out



Sacramento's Ginger and...Ginger



The winning team of the evening



STARS By Nephi

DECEMBER, 2004

Mercury is in retrograde until December 20 so expect delays and communication disasters in all signs. Back up your computers and dot those "i"s.

ARIES (March 21-April 20) It's a good time for meeting people to help with projects, but friends and money don't mix. The focus is on travel and business. Old friends and issues pop up from the past—make amends, it was your fault.

TAURUS (April 21-May 20) Neptune clouds career matters this month. Get a second opinion before making big decisions. Bank deals are fraught with pitfalls in December but you benefit from other people's money. December is great for you and your mate, but a career partner may not be on your wavelength. December 17 is not the best time to socialize. Friends complicate matters.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Love is in the air for you this month. Long-distance contacts are well favored. Guard your possessions. You could receive an unexpected perk at work or get involved with someone on the job. Tension with a partner around December 5 eases by December 11. Your portfolio at work may suddenly change; Mars could be making an authority figure irritable.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If buying property, hold off signing until late December. You could travel unexpectedly but in December the normal holiday mix-ups are multiplied. An old love interest could resurface. Guard your health around December 5 and 17. Spend a relaxing New Year's Eve with close relatives and friends.

LEO (July 23-August 21) Love is strained the weekend of December 5 when Saturn and Uranus (no puns please) stand alone without any aspects. Nerves may be on edge. Mid-December is unfavorable for bank deals and investments. Wait till after Christmas. Turn to your extra-curricular friends for fun and frolic this month.

VIRGO (August 22-September 22) *You need to conserve and not go overboard* with Christmas spending. If you have children they need more than usual attention. Relatives can stress you out, but get ready for fun in mid-December. Go to the Christmas parties and have some fun.

LIBRA (September 23-October 23) Jupiter in your sign is a huge blessing. It will be easy now to enhance your appearance, boost your self-esteem and make those boys or girls drool over you. Your concerns are for family, love and health, but don't forget to mind your work. You may need to rethink your career direction—maybe as one of your New Year's resolutions.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 21) Happy planets are in your fourth house so dress the home for the holidays and maybe even think about that remodeling you've been wanting to do. Give yourself a makeover too in November. Mid-November you may be irritable with relatives. December 5 is not particularly good for the social calendar, instead stay home and catch up on that stack of DVDs you haven't gotten around to yet. don't worry, tension eases by year's end.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21) There is a lesson to be learned this month, especially if money or sex is the issue. Treat yourself to new clothes, spruce up your appearance, put your best foot forward whenever you open that door. There's tension around the weekend of December 5, but don't fight with your partner—just let it go. Mid-December the planets will ensure happy holidays.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20) Go after your dream. Friends will help but you need to go out and meet the opportunities. Old partnership issues can be resolved if you try to talk them out. Wait till after December 20 to sign any documents. and remember, this horoscope if for your birthday AND Christmas.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 18) Plan a new strategy for handling your finances but don't execute till January. Unexpected friends surface from the past in December and closes the year on a sociable high note. Enjoy the fireworks (Wink, wink).

PISCES (February 19-March 20) Unexpected changes come for Pisces in the next few years. Other people's money could make your dreams come true, whether it is from legacies or bank loans—but don't borrow unless you have to, or more than you can pay back. Travel and long distance contacts are looking good, but check and double check everything—you'll be glad you did. Your career sector is being filled with planets to the end of the year, setting the tone for a new outlook in 2005.

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TAROTSCOPES by JESSICA RABBIT

Dear Jessica, I am going back to school to finish my degree after several years away, and I am nervous. I have one more year to go, and I am anxious about the changes that this will mean in my life. Can you tell me about this transition? —San Pedro, CA



Courtesy Photo by Andrea Young

Dear Seeker, Congratulations on your decision to finish school! The cards I am getting for you are the Tower, which indicates chaos and change; the 8 of Wands, which is all about swift forward motion; the 3 of Wands, which tells us that those who are patient and determined succeed; and the 7 of Cups, which tells us that choices should be carefully considered. I think that this is going to be a very good experience for you—you are in a great position to change some circumstances in your life that have limited you in your growth. You have clearly given this decision a great deal of thought, and if you are bold now in this move forward, you will succeed. I think you might have to be patient—it looks like it will take an extra semester for you to complete your course of study, but it will be worth it to take your time and get what you really want.

Dear Jessica, I have been living with my girlfriend and her two kids for almost a year now. I feel like we aren't connecting very well- the house is too small for all of us, money is tight, and we don't even really talk any more. I don't know what to do. — Northampton, MA

Dear Seeker, It ain't over. You are your girlfriend are coming up as a great pair—I have the 2 of Cups which indicates a strong, loving commitment between you. You are currently indulging fantasies of fleeing a stressful situation, suggested by the 5 of Pentacles. That's understandable—we all dream of ways to escape difficulties in our lives. But these dreams are hollow—you wouldn't be writing to me if you really wanted to go. Instead, I see you reaching down into your relationship to find the joy that brought you two together in the first place, and also looking for new, innovative solutions to your problems, reflected in the Knight of Wands and the Strength card. The holidays are a good time for togetherness—make some special time for just the two of you and make sure she knows that you value her as a person, not just as a partner. Talk about the future and what you both want. I DO foresee a move within the next 6 months into a better space, and I think this will help a lot in alleviating the external stresses on your relationship, so you two are able to focus on continuing to build the bond that is sustaining you through this rough patch.

Dear Jessica, I recently had some major car problems, and now I don't know what to do—buy another car or get the one I have fixed. Either way, it's going to cost money I don't have. Is this going to work out? —Berkeley, CA

Dear Seeker, It will be okay. You're coming up as the 7 of Wands: fighting back against adversity, and the 5 of Swords, which suggests having to work within limits. The repairs ARE necessary, but they can be done for less than you think. Find a mechanic who can do the bare minimum to keep it running for now, because I do see another car in the new year- probably in February as indicated by the 2 of Wands: enthusiasm for something new. Some money will come your way that will allow you to make the transition to a new vehicle. But this car problem is not actually the real issue here—the real issue is that you are not saving money for emergencies, and you are angry with yourself about it. Don't be so hard on yourself. Instead of blaming yourself for circumstances beyond your control, take stock of what you DO have control over, and act accordingly.

Jessica Rabbit is a lesbian psychic and tarot reader in the Bay Area. She reads privately for clients over the telephone or in person, and can be reached at jessica@sacredtarot.com, or via the web at www.sacredtarot.com. She also reads every Friday night at the White Horse Bar on Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley.

The Center of the transgender movement

By Lindsey Young/Q-Ragg



Drag Queen. Intersex. Transsexual. The "T" in LGBT has often been ignored, misunderstood, and discriminated against, according to many people who identify as transgendered. As a gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community resource for Sacramento, the Lambda Center seeks to assist those in need. Vice President, JG Gonsalves, says a significant goal of the facility is "to include the transgender community."

In order to accomplish this purpose, the Lambda Center provides transgender people with resources. Outreach regarding transgender people can be found in various ways through the Lambda Center. Pamphlets and bulletin boards report local transgender events and organizations in addition to SGA and Sigma Delta Gamma.

Lambda Center is a host for several local LGBT organizations, and two transgender-oriented organizations regularly meet at the Lambda Center: Sacramento Gender Association and Sigma Delta Gamma.

Sacramento Gender Association (SGA) identifies themselves as a group that seeks to "support and help other with being, or knowing a TG (transgender)." SGA further states, "We strive to help TGs and their families understand the condition is natural and to learn to live and enjoy it within a safe environment." Another objective is to "educate the public about the TG phenomenon."

SGA organizes a potluck meeting every second Saturday at 7pm in the Lambda Center. SGA meetings also occur at transgender-friendly restaurants, such as Hamburger Mary's. The Transcend newsletter is given to members, and they are "encouraged to submit articles."

Johanna, a member of SGA, feels that individuals can express themselves and feel accepted while at group meetings and social outings. She says that "even with our (gay, bisexual, lesbian) community" people hold assumptions about transgender behavior. For instance, she notes the differences that exists between people who identify as drag queens, transsexual, intersex, etc.

Another conflict: "We're visibly different than the rest of the gay community," Johanna expresses. She explains that one's appearance does not usually sexual orientation; however, with transgender people, their gender expression is more obvious.

Johanna appreciates the Lambda Center as a facility because "it's great for communication" with other transgender people. Many of the members go on to attend the other events advertised inside, she enthuses.

The SGA Hotline is (916) 364-7212.

Sigma Delta Gamma is the Sacramento division of Tri-Ess, a national network of support groups for cross-dressers, their partners and their families. The local group claims many purposes. Sigma Delta Gamma supports and assists crossdressers, their partners and families, in order to create, "understanding and acceptance of the qualities essential to their personalities."

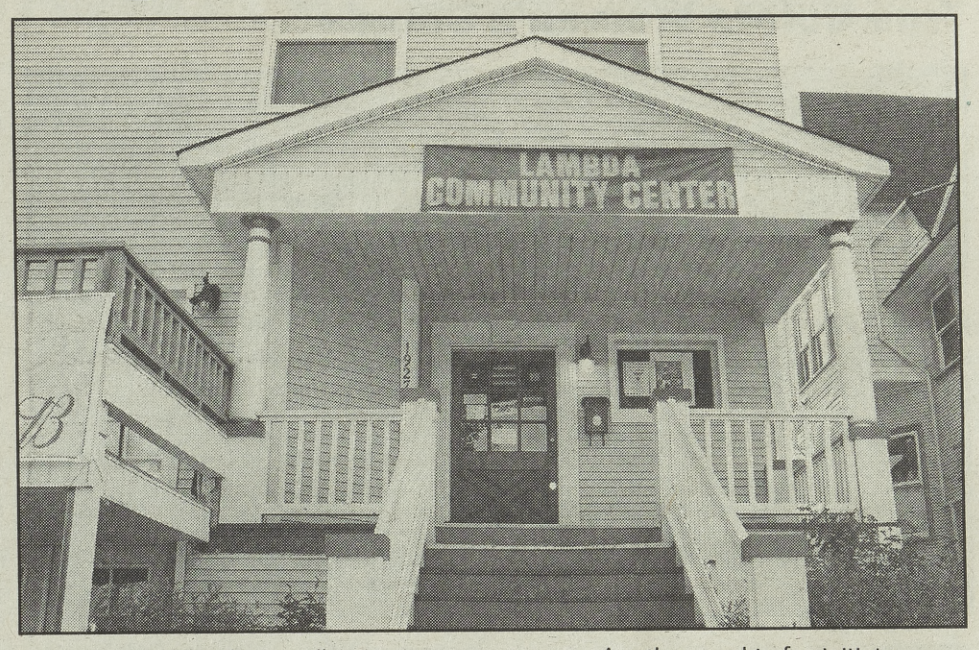
Opportunities for crossdressing, programs, services and social activities are offered. Also, Sigma Delta Gamma reports, "We seek to promote the education and enlightenment of our members and society as to the nature of crossdressing through local, national, and international Tri-Ess Outreach Programs."

Meetings are held every third Saturday at the Lambda Center at 7pm. Gatherings are also held at various transgender-friendly public locations.

Briana Smith, Sigma Delta Gamma president credits, "For CDs when they are first coming out, they are so nervous to be dressed... the Lambda Center is a great place for that."

Smith emphasizes, "It's a [comfortable] place for new girls to meet."

Smith continues, "But for girls who've gotten past that, they really enjoy being OUT OUT, out in the crowd of society... some of us meet at local restaurants."



Common struggles for cross-dressers were shared by Smith.

" I think that the BIGGEST misunderstanding that people have of CDs (crossdressers) is that they are gay." She believes that the majority of CDs (crossdressers) are heterosexual, mirroring general society.

Smith ponders, "Though, when you bring up the discussion "Is a TS gay"... you have to wonder, are you referring to the orientation of what is on the surface? Or the orientation of the inner girl?"

Also, Smith mentions that stereotypes come along with the word "drag queen." People "don't necessarily correlate CDs to "transsexuals"(TS)," she states, "Both fall under the same 'umbrella' term, of "transgender."

And another problem can occur when friends and family are curious about their loved one's gender expression. Smith knows that relationships can suffer if the truth is not share.

In Smith's case, her spouse and immediate family lend support and acceptance. Her sister said, " "Why didn't you tell me sooner?! I had TONS of gay/bi/TS friends in high school! You and I would have had such a blast!"

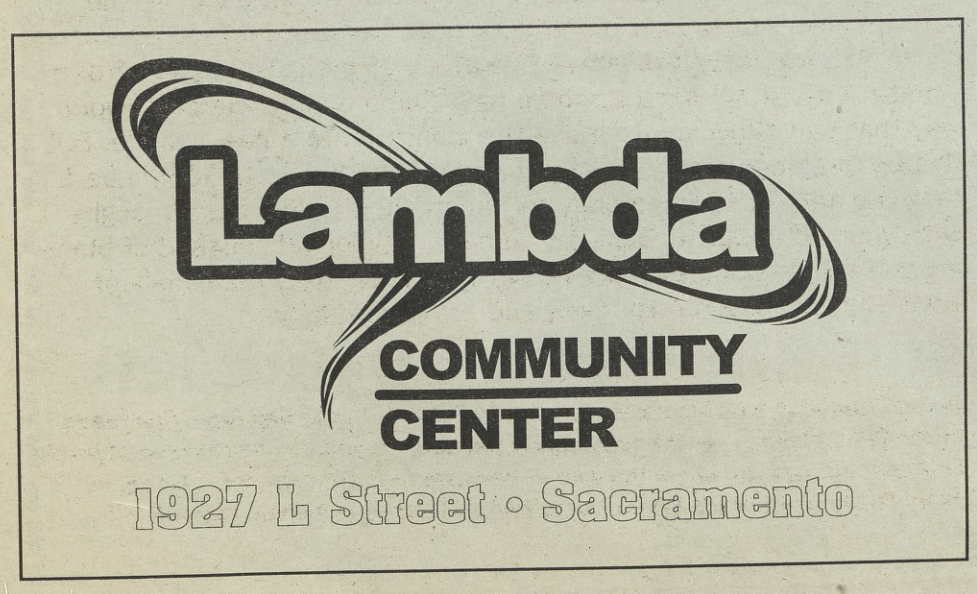
The Sigma Delta Gamma contact number is (916) 359-2328.

A future goal of the Lambda Center is to provide a psychologist who is equipped to help with transgender issues. Another goal is for initiate more transgender-related activities within the facility.

"We are very open [to] the transgendered community," says Vice President JG Gonsalves about the Lambda Center, "And we want to be more open."

Information about Lambda Center happenings and resources are available at www.lambdasac.org. Questions can be answered personally at the Lambda Center: 1927 L Street Sacramento, CA 95814-4108, phone: (916) 442-0185, or fax: (916) 325-1840.

First Stages – This support/discussion group for youth 18-29 who are recently diagnosed with HIV firststages@lambdasac.org
Men's Coming Out Group – This weekly support/discussion group starts at 6 p.m., and is open to men of all ages investigating "coming out" issues. mencomingout@lambdasac.org
Men's Discussion Group – Explore gay-related issues in a supportive, non-judgmental environment.mensgroup@lambdasac.org
Women's Coming Out Group – This group is a safe, supportive, confidential environment where you can make friends and share your experiences. WomenComingOut@lambdasac.org
Womyn on Wednesday – Socialization and to discuss issues that Lesbian and bisexual women may find important. womensgroup@lambdasac.org
Breaking Barriers/Lambda Youth Group – Fun, educational, and thought provoking discussions that tackle topics facing queer youth today.youthgroup@lambdasac.org





Celebrating Our Lives... True Colors Women's Chorus



The True Colors Women's Chorus held its 2nd Annual "Celebrating Our Lives" extravaganza on November 6th at Temple B'Nai Israel.

This yearly event recognizes and honors the loving and committed relationships in the LGBT community and showcases the talent of Sacramento's 18-year-old women's chorus, True Colors (formerly the Sacramento Women's Chorus). This year there were also performances by the Sacramento Men's Chorus and the DIVA Mixed Chorus. This was the first time ever that all three of Sacramento's largely LGBT choruses came together in one event.

"Celebrating Our Lives" was also a fundraiser for True Colors, and this year it featured an exciting silent auction, raffle, an elegant dessert bar, and the unveiling of the new 2005 True Colors Women's Chorus "Calendar Girls" style calendar. There were over 150 people in attendance who enjoyed superb music, sweets, and auction. In addition to being a successful fundraiser, the chorus donated a portion of the proceeds to MECA (Marriage Equality California), a state-wide organization fighting for gay marriage rights in California.

Audience members were also treated to superb guest speakers including former Sacramento Mayor Anne Rudin, Kinna Patel from MECA, Dan Roth of Stonewall Democratic Club, and others. The chorus then recognized those with official Domestic Partner status and long-term lesbian and gay couples. It was a wonderful and joyous evening celebrating LGBT lives and love. The Third Annual "Celebrating Our Lives" event is scheduled for October 15, 2005.

For more information about True Colors Women's Chorus, check out the website at: http://hometown.aol.com/SacWomensChorus.

"An International Holiday: Christmas in California" Sacramento Men's Chorus

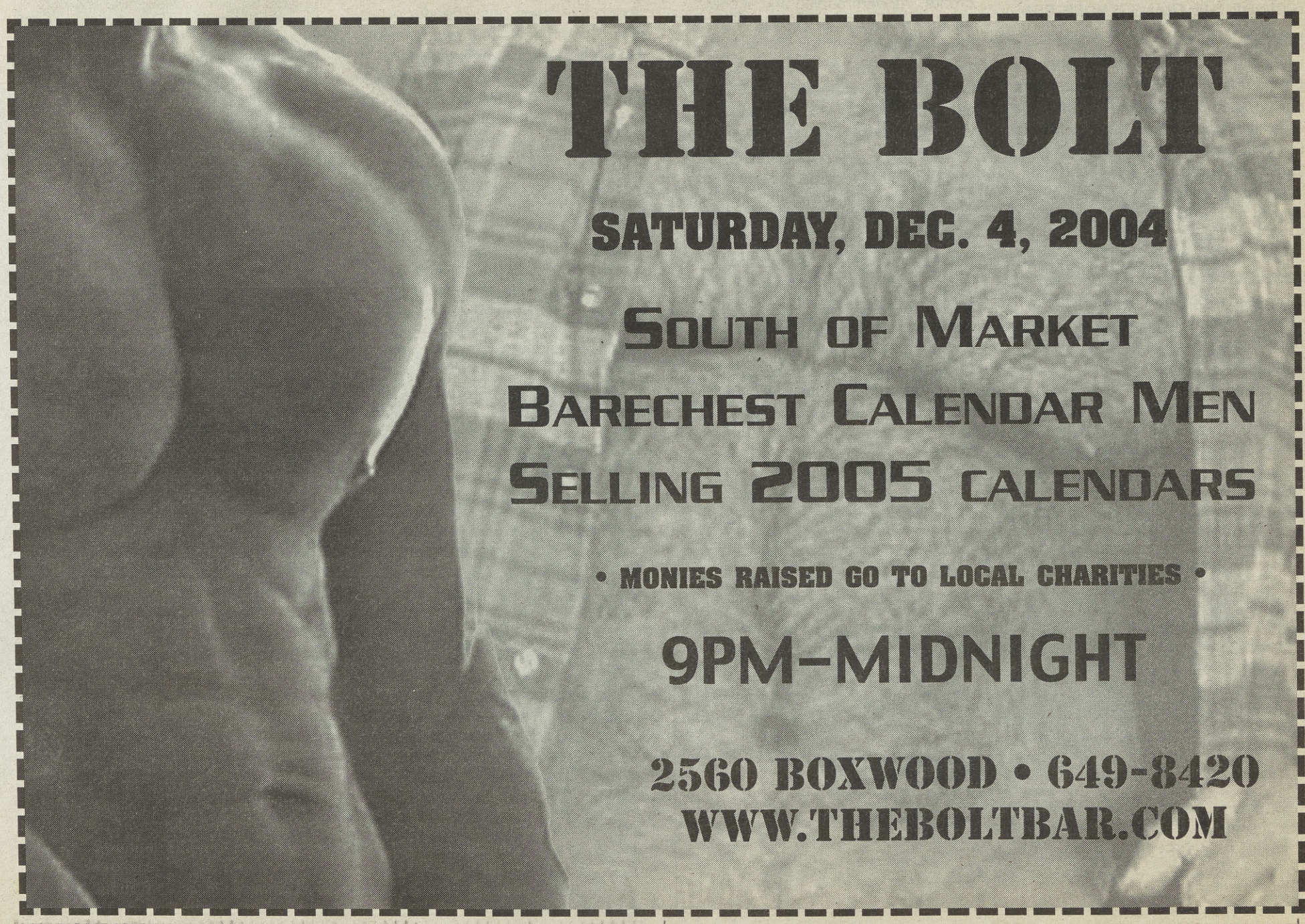


Whether you say Feliz Navidad, Joyeaux Noel, or Maligayang Pasko, a Merry Christmas from around the world is the holiday wish to you from the Sacramento Men's Chorus, celebrating their 20th Anniversary Season with a series of Christmas concerts on December 3rd and 4th at 8:00 p.m. and December 5th at 4:00 p.m., at the Pioneer Congregational Church (UCC), 2700 L St., Sacramento, (across from the main entrance to Sutter's Fort.)

Entitled "An International Holiday: Christmas in California", the concerts will be directed by Carl Naluai, Artistic Director of the Sacramento Men's Chorus. The audience will hear the chorus singing in English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Russian, and Nigerian. The songs range from the prayerful, ("Cantique de Jean Racine"), to the ridiculous ("Psycho Carols"), with stops in Nigeria ("Betehelemu"), the Ukraine ("Carol of the Bells"), the American South, ("Tell It On the Mountain"), and many other places along the way. The concerts will feature a number of the chorus members as soloists, as well as several small ensembles comprised of chorus members.

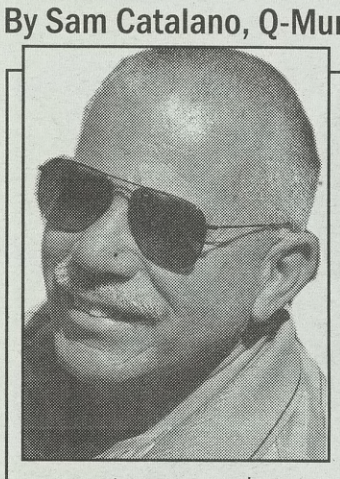
And in a repeat of last year's successful toy drive, during the concerts the Sacramento Men's Chorus will be collecting children's toys for the Sacramento Crisis Nurseries.

Tickets are $12 in advance and $15 at the door. Discounted tickets for seniors (60 and over) and children (12 and under) will be available at the door for $12. Season tickets are only $30 for our 3 show season and they will be available at the door or in advance via mail-order. Holiday show tickets may be purchased in advance at The Open Book, Ltd., 910 21st St., Sacramento, and The Gifted Gardener, 1730 J St., Sacramento. For further information call the Sacramento Men's Chorus at (916) 484-5789, and be sure to check out their website at www.SacMensChorus.org.



Ugly Choices Ahead

By Sam Catalano, Q-Munity Icon



In my previous column I laid out some of my observations for the future and, at least on the same sex marriage issue, they are all full of doom and gloom. Within the near future—two to four years from now—every state (except maybe Mass.) will have constitutional amendments banning same sex marriage. And that includes good old California. I am just slightly less pessimistic that a federal constitutional amendment banning same sex marriage will also have passed through Congress—close but no cigar yet.

In California, we are faced with the very likely prospect of one of three sad and one very scary choice. If by some BIG miracle Assemblyman Mark Leno's bill allowing same sex marriage should pass the legislature and be signed by the Governor, we will immediately face a referendum overturning the bill. And the referendum will pass with 60 to 70% and we're merely back to where we are now. Not equal, of course, but certainly better off than the rest of the country (always except in Mass).

Choice number two is that by 2006 we will have to deal with a constitutional ballot issue banning same sex marriage. If we're sadly lucky, the ban will be limited to saying marriage is between a man and a woman. Period. Again, not equality, but not much different than what we have today. And it will pass with 60%.

Now, the very ugly choice we could face in 2006 is that the homo-hating religious bigots and their political lackeys, the Republican Religious Party, will get greedy and spiteful, and go for the golden apple, a constitutional amendment banning not only same sex marriage but civil unions and any domestic partner benefits by any entity (state, county, city, school district, etc). This is what they just did in Ohio.

The good news is that this would be easier for us to fight—most folks don't mind domestic partner benefits. The bad news is that it just might pass. Remember Ohio.

So what do we do? Plan on moving to Canada? Move to Mass? Just not worry about it (sadly, that will be the choice of the vast majority of LGBT folks)? Give up? Fight Back? Fight Back How? Tough choices—each with consequences we may or may not like. But we will have to face them. Trust me.

SCATALANO@Q-RAGG.COM

Studio Theatre's *Pageant*: Six Women with Penises

By Matt Burlingame/Q-Ragg

Jackie Schultz, owner of the Studio Theatre has got to be one of the shrewdest theatre producers in Sacramento because there is no way sheer dumb luck could account for an eight year run of *Six Women with Brain Death* being immediately followed up by another hit show already being extended for a month.

Surrounding herself with talent like musical director William Hedge, associate producer Nisa Davis Hayden and artistic director Greg Alexander is another reason Jackie continues to be a success. Even her production and box office team come with impressive resumes.

This Fall, the Studio Theatre team traded its successful run of *Six Women with Brain Death* for six women with penises—or rather six talented men who slip on brightly colored bridesmaid dresses and fashionable wigs and are transformed into beauty pageant contestants. And these ladies selling out houses every weekend.

Since the first audition announcement for this show, many talented actors and most every gay actor worth their salt was vying for one of these coveted roles. Director Greg Alexander crafted a team of some of Sacramento's best to fill these high heels.

The play stars Magic Circle Theatre regular Jerry Lee (*Little Me, Charley's Aunt, Arsenic and Old Lace*), Zeke Shearer (*Little Shop of Horrors, Guys & Dolls*), Matt Dunn (*Evita, Chorus Line, Into The Woods*), Daryl Clark (*Walls," Smokey Joe's Cafe*), and Lambda Players' alums Michael Coleman (*Jesus Christ Superstar, Brighton Beach Memoirs*) and Scott Griffith (*La Cage Aux Folles, The Ritz*) as the contestants. Rounding out the cast is Studio Theatre regular Troy Thomas (*Talk Show, Little Shop of Horrors, The Rainmaker*) as the host of the pageant.

One of the best things about this production is that each of these actors has achieved distinct and identifiable personalities for their characters. This is one of the key ingredients of any good play and one done very successfully.

Jerry Lee is priceless as Ruth Ann Ruth, aka Miss Bible Belt. As much as we would want to boo and jeer her, particularly in the recent political-religious climate, the character's mixture of Anita Bryant meets Betty Bowers will more than appeal to the sense camp our Q-munity craves.

Zeke Shearer does double duty as the ditzy California stereotype Miss West Coast and the retiring Miss Glamouresse, The later role does more to show Zeke's talent, relying more on improv than the pratfalls of the other character.

Matt Dunn brings to life the character of Miss Industrial Northeast, Consuela Manuela Rafaela Lopez. Some of the physical comedy involving Dunn is hilarious, particularly the moments, because of Dunn's small stature (he must weight 90 pounds) several cast members are able to pick him up under the arms and simply move him aside. Dunn's other big moment and a real crowd pleaser is his character's talent number: playing the accordion while roller skating. Dunn definitely has some of the better scene stealing moments in the show.



Daryl Clark is a theatre arts major at Sacramento City College and has appeared in some big name plays, but this role will have to stand out as one of the best. Playing Kitty-Bob Ames, Miss Texas, Daryl not only beats the others hands down in looking the most like a real woman, but has some of the more choice bits in the play, all of which are executed perfectly.

Michael Coleman plays Miss Deep South, your typical southern bell character. Michael takes an otherwise forgettable role and makes it memorable with feigned gentility and an all-American smile. Coleman also costumed the show, which drips the perfect mesh of drag queen sheik and thrift store treasures.

Scott Griffith takes the role of Miss Great Plains. While this is another role that could be easily forgotten, there is no match for the talent portion of the show when Griffith lays on the floor reciting American pride poetry and using visual aids you have to see to believe. It is a show stopping moment and one of the funniest in the production.

Troy Thomas is perfect in the role of the smarmy, corny, smooth talking pageant host. Troy was formerly seen in Studio theatre's late night run of *Talk Show* where he likewise gave a flawless performance.

No production is without its flaws however, and while *Pageant* covers them well with talent, production value and a genuine sense of fun, nevertheless, a weak script, good but not great direction, and playing it too "straight" shaves bonus points off the show.

The script is a bare minimum of material, including jokes that go no where and others that lacked the visible punchline desperately needed. One of the best things—and hardest things—for a director to do is fill in the blanks when a script is less than par; a play is not the script alone. While there was a good amount of physical humor, jokes that were just plain *"punny" were* left in the cold with nothing to back them up.

There was also quite a bit of gay humor and camp that seemed to be overlooked and played "straight." A show with all men playing women and a character like Miss Bible Belt would have been hilarious if the character's strict religious views were emphasized more. The jokes were there, but the entendre was not. But then again, it's a mystery why straight audiences still roar with laughter at the mere mention of a show with men in dresses. But they do, and young and old, gay and straight; Sacramento is eating up this show.

Greg Alexander couldn't have compiled a better cast and Studio Theatre has another hit on its hands, and the run has already been extended through January 2005.

Do yourself a favor and don't risk missing *Pageant*. It's a definite must see and a very fun evening of light-hearted entertainment.





17th Annual

World AIDS Day

"Women, Children, and AIDS"



Wednesday, December 1, 2004

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Pioneer United Church

* FREE ADMITTANCE *

Candlelight March

6:00-6:30 p.m.

Starting from CARES (1500 21st Street, Sacramento)
to Pioneer United Church (2700 L Street, Sacramento)

Guest Speakers, Live Music, Refreshments, AIDS Quilt Display

6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

For more information, call Azizza Davis Goines (916) 914-6333

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INCLUDES 18+ AREA
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Real Snow
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SATURDAY Jan 1 — $10

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LIVE PERFORMANCES
Pat Hodges
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Good (You make me feel good)
And The Hits – Saving my Love,
Tom the roof off
Becky Baeling
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woman (from Queer Eye
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Holiday movies deserve lumps of coal

BITCH SLAPS
0 GREAT
1
2
3
4
5 WORST

Swanner: I don't know how you felt about the movies this month but in my view: they sucked. There were a few shining moments but...not many.

Judd: They were completely forgettable. There were a handful of movies I saw in theatres this month. Some of them I knew what I was getting into, other seemed like guaranteed hits—these were the ones that were the most fouled up.

Swanner: The month did start off well with *The Incredibles*. I really enjoyed it. It was a bit like spy kids only entertaining.

Judd: Our readers already know how I felt about that one, but I'll reiterate that it's a definite must see. The only other movie that I saw this month worth recommending was *Being Julia* starring Annette Benning. The movie takes place in 1930's London, and is a wonderful piece about a headstrong actress—not Margo Channing headstrong, but along those lines. Benning shined.



THE POLAR EXPRESS

Swanner: You might want to mention that Margo Channing was Bette Davis' characters name in the amazing All About Eve. I mention it since Matt won't know to whom you referencing.

Judd: Hey now! If you want to take a dig at our editor, leave me out of it!

Swanner: Leave you out of the bashing? You feeling all right?

Judd: Mmm-hmm, yes, you can leave me out of the bashing when it comes to the man cleaning up my opinions for the throng of 'mos that read us. When I'm drunk at the Merc airing my opinions, no one cares—but here we are needed.

Swanner: So true, especially with the reindeer droppings of movies there were this month. Although, I liked, believe it or not, *Christmas with the Cranks*. It's one of those wonderful holiday films that I'm sure you would hate. I'd actually like to see it again. Jamie Lee Curtis was wonderful. Tim Allen plays her husband and they worked very nicely together.

Judd: Whatever. When I saw the previews for *Saw* I thought it was going to be one of the freakiest films of all time. Lion's Gate impressed me last year with *May* (one of my all time favorites) and I figured *Saw* was going to follow the same fresh, innovative style of horror/gore filmmaking. Then I "saw" the movie—total garbage. The storytelling was hackneyed, the direction was dull. *Saw* could have been a terrific film and reached cult status. Instead, the only thing *Saw* is going to reach is the bottom of the "$4.99 or Less!" bin at Wal-Mart.

Swanner: I also saw a couple of films that you didn't. *National Treasure* was very entertaining. It was trying to be an *Indiana Jones* and even though it never achieved that goal, its heart in the right place. It moved well and I was never bored. Nicolas Cage and Jon Voight play father and son. I should note that I hate these two actors, but in a fluffy, goofy movie like this they were palatable. I also saw *The Polar Express* which was good, even though the faces in the animation were kind of freaky. Still, it was yet another warm and wonderful Christmas film. I need to do some shopping...

Judd: Thank goodness you saw those two flaming heaps. I'm not ready to see Christmas movies yet and I don't like Nicholas Cage. He gives me the creeps in the same way that Christopher Walken does. I saw the action/adventure movie *After the Sunset* starring Pierce Brosnan, Selma Hayek, Woody Harrelson and Don Cheadle. I can't say that it was a decent distraction, but I can definitely see this movie being played as a Sunday afternoon movie on Channel 40. The only thing vaguely interesting in this movie was Selma's tits. I'll give this four bitchslaps—two for each tit.

Swanner: One film I didn't like was *Alfie*, which is a remake of a 1966 film starring Michael Caine. Maybe a guy that treats women like crap was entertaining in the '60s, but not these days. Jude Law (Alfie) looks pretty enough, but he's a bum regardless. The film is attractive as are all the actors, but I spent the whole movie trying to remember the words to the song. I would suggest breaking out the Dionne Warwick albums and skipping the film. That brings us to the film we both saw: *Sideways*. What did you think of it?

Judd: What did I think of *Sideways*? It SUCKED. I heard that you saw it during a sneak preview and hated it so I thought, "OK, I'm going to try and like this movie so we can argue." The only thing I'm pissed about is that YOU got to drink at the screening. Lucky bitch!

Swanner: That was the the best part of that screening. I got pretty tipsy before the movie started—you'd think that would have helped, but it didn't. I heard all the critics were raving about it, so I thought it was going to be great. And it was—great—big pile of crap!



JUDE LAW IN *ALFIE*

Judd: The audience was laughing the whole time, and I have no idea why. My theory is that this movie is the elusive "Straight Humor" we've heard so much about. Just like straight people don't get camp and drag queens, we gays don't get whatever the hell this movie was supposed to be. The screenwriter and director, Alexander Payne, also did the movie *About Schmidt*, which was basically the same kind of "Straight Humor". Straight Humor revolves around miserable characters trying to escape their mundane lives in very boring and uninspired ways. Straight people think it's funny because they're just as plebeian as the characters in Payne's movies.

Swanner: I thought maybe Hets like to root on guys that cheat. Maybe it gives them hope? I did think the acting was good, but I just hated the plot and the story. The guys were either idiots or assholes and the women should just know better.

Judd: Hell, yeah, the Hets are rooting for the guy that wants one last fling before he attaches the "ball 'n' chain" because they know that from the moment you say 'I do' that is the last piece of ass the newly betrothed is every going to have (theoretically). Of course when the homos go for a fling, we're sick and depraved, but if it's loveable Lowell from TV's *Wings*, then it's all right. Another thing, if I were a straight woman, I wouldn't want to sleep with Paul Giamatti—the pompous, whiny little shit!

Swanner: Now there's my bitter friend; I missed you. I agree completely on this film. I was looking forward to this film, and it was a huge disappointment. Giamatti is like 40 in this movie and he's still stealing cash from mommy's purse. It was pathetic. I wish I understood the attraction to this movie...or maybe I'm glad I don't.

Judd: Be glad you don't. I know I am. I like Sandra, but not in this film.

SWANNER

Incredibles ... 1 bitchslaps
Christmas/Kranks ... 2 bitchslaps
National Treasure ... 3 bitchslaps
Alfie ... 4 bitchslaps
The Polar Express ... 5 bitchslaps
Sideways ... 4 bitchslaps

JUDD

Incredibles ... 1 bitchslaps
Being Julia ... 2 bitchslaps
Saw ... 4 bitchslaps
After the Sunset ... 3 bitchslaps
Sideways 5 ... 2 bitchslaps



SIDEWAYS MEN

Shaun of the Dead deliver laughs



Shaun of the Dead
By Swanner & Judd

Judd: Last night we watched *Shaun of the Dead*. I was really looking forward to this movie and all the good reviews it received really set me up...to be disappointed. The basic story is of two loser roommates that fight zombies. There was some romantic comedy junk and some dysfunctional family tripe thrown in to make it interesting. Blah, blah, blah. Tom, what did you think?

Swanner: I'm not fan of zombie movies but with this being a comedy I kind of liked it. I grew up on a lot of English television so I have a taste for British humor. As you had said, our hero Shaun and his roommate Ed are pretty much oblivious to the Zombie action happening around them. This is what happens when people get to involved in video games!

Judd: I'll have you know that I have a taste for British humour too, thank you very much. In fact, look at the way I spelled "humour." Very British. So there! Anyway, I thought some of the jokes were funny, but I was expecting something much funnier, and I wasn't expecting all that touchy-feely garbage thrown in. I could have handled Shaun trying to woo back his bird while trying to fight off zombies, but that whole bit about her roommate—I mean flat mate—also being in love with her.... GROAN! And then they go and add in the distant and disapproving stepfather—it was too much. It seemed labored. I mean "laboured."

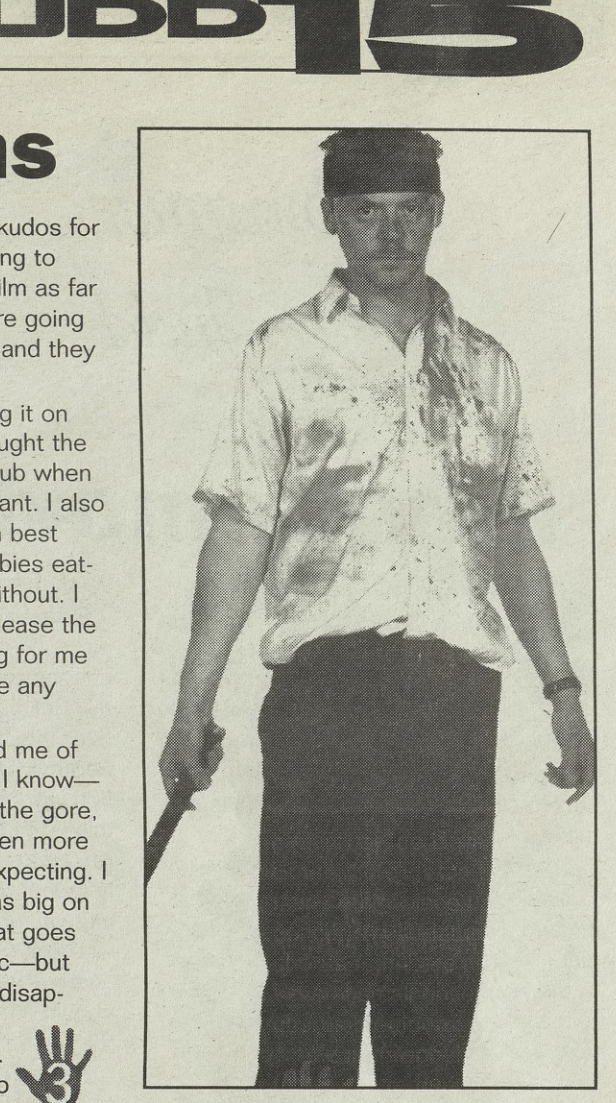
Swanner: (in best British accent) I do agree that the storyline about his bird and even his mum was all basically filler. It wasn't too much of a bore but the whole pub setting was bloody brilliant. I just loved the whole treatment of zombies: in the beginning of the film, everyone pretty much looked and acted like zombies anyway. It's nice making fun of zombies; I actually slept through the night with no zombie dreams.

Judd: Ugh, now you're just going overboard. I thought parts were funny, but I wouldn't say brilliant. I was expecting huge laughs that never came. What I also wasn't expecting was the amount of suspense. I will give the movie kudos for that. I didn't think they were going to take the zombie aspect of the film as far as they did. I assumed they were going to take the total comedic route and they didn't, but still kept it clever.

Swanner: Well, while watching it on my "telly," I laughed a lot. I thought the scene in the backroom of the pub when the shade is pulled up was brilliant. I also really liked the rapport between best friends Shaun and Ed. The zombies eating bodies I could have done without. I think they added that stuff to please the gore fans. Too much flesh biting for me but as I said earlier, I didn't have any zombie nightmares.

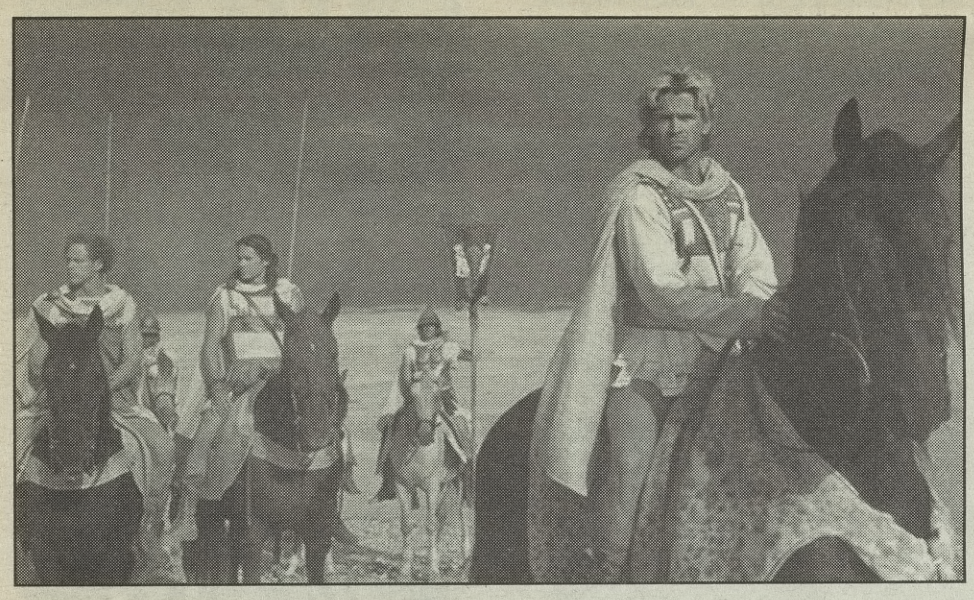
Judd: Shaun and Ed reminded me of you and your—uh...two people I know—I'll leave it at that. I didn't mind the gore, and in fact there could have been more of it, I think that's what I was expecting. I was hoping for a movie that was big on blood and laughs—a combo that goes almost as well and gin and tonic—but that's not what I got and I was disappointed. The movie didn't deliver what the previews promised. As a result, I'm going to have to rate the film three bitchslaps.

Swanner: It was a fresh look at an old dead genre so I give it two bitchslaps—one for the gore and one because the Brits drink warm beer.



SIMON PEGG PLAYS "SHAUN" IN THE COMEDY *SHAUN OF THE DEAD*

Alexander is a celluloid crapfest



Alexander
By Swanner & Judd

Judd: Last night we saw the longest, most expensive debacle since *Cleopatra*. Colin Farrell, Angelina Jolie, Val Kilmer, Sir Anthony Hopkins, and Jared Leto could not save the cinematic Hindenburg that is *Alexander*.

Swanner: I don't know where to start. It's Colin Farrell; he can do no wrong in my eyes. Even when he cheats on me and gets drunk and fights, I can look past it, but for this hideous montrosity, there is no forgiveness.

Judd: Colin Farrell is the least of this movie's problems. In fact the only redeeming quality to this movie was the one-second shot of his ass and the hairy balls dangling beneath. Even then, that's about an hour and a half after being forced to look at 15 minutes of bare tits swinging in the breeze and then there's another torturous hour and a half to go.

Swanner: But the costumes and sets were nice.

Judd: The costumes were OK—I mean you can only go so wrong with a toga. As far as the sets, with all they can do with CGI these days, how do we know what was really a set and what was computer graphics? Hell, for all we know that healthy dose of breast meat we received could have been all CGI.

Swanner: Kind of like in *Catwoman*? Here you have this incredible story and I just have to wonder, 'how can you screw it up so badly?' I'm not sure if it was the script that was so bad or the direction. The acting was good, but it was the same cycle over and over: a battle scene for 20 minutes, then someone talks about the battle for 10 minutes, then a dance number, and then someone dies. I'm starting to have flashbacks.

Judd: The script was definitely one of the downfalls. The dialogue was wordy and ostentatious—what I could understand of it, that is. I couldn't understand what most the characters were saying, especially Anthony Hopkins. I thought maybe it was because the yummy Egyptian scribes were distracting me. But no, I think that after hearing the first five rambling minutes I unconsciously tuned him out. The whole movie sounded like the teachers from a Peanuts cartoon: "mwha, mwhaa, mwhaa, mwhamwha"—That is until Angelina Jolie caught the redeye in from Transylvania. Alexander The Great is a historically documented homosexual—or bisexual at the very least. It also has been historically documented that he had two long-term male lovers. The movie touched on this with only two man-on-man hugs and one drunken kiss. Yet, we get 15 minutes of TITS! And then some people had the nerve to complain that the movie was too gay! Screw that! It wasn't gay enough! If I go to see a bioflick of a homosexual man and have to stare at some chick's tits for 15 minutes and endure one of the oddest sex scenes ever filmed, I think some brain dead frat boy can sit through a real and tender kiss between male lovers! If we were watching a film about sappho, I wouldn't freak because they had two women kissing or making love. I'd just close my eyes until they were done.

Swanner: I've read "too gay" comments and I'm sorry but if you make a movie about a gay man, then it needs to be a bit gay. Most rednecks aren't going to be shelling out $9 to see *Alexander* when there's a gun show in town anyway. It's well known that he only took a wife because he wanted an heir. The "bisexual thing" is as stupid now as when Elton John said he was bisexual in the 80s. It makes the hets less phobic if they believe a gay guy still thinks about p-ssy.

Judd: I wonder if *Braveheart* would have been as popular a movie if we knew that William Wallace took it up the ass? Or Patton was a pole smoker? Or Napoleon liked to get on his knees? The fact is these men were military geniuses. Multiple movies have been made about them and I don't see Josephine getting just a hug. I'm not real big on the politics of "outing" but if a man's sexual affairs have been documented, why not keep to the story. I would think that if Hollywood were as liberal as everyone keeps *screaming they are, a homosexual that conquered 22 million square miles* would be a pretty good start to showing that we can be more than five mincing fairies making over straight men to the delight of their fag hag girlfriends.

Swanner: So let me get this "straight". You hated the direction because it was all over the place. You hated the script because it didn't tell the story of Alexander, but the story the writers wanted to tell. You hated the acting because you don't like boring monologues given by horribly miscast actors. What did you like?

Judd: I liked the yummy Egyptian scribes.

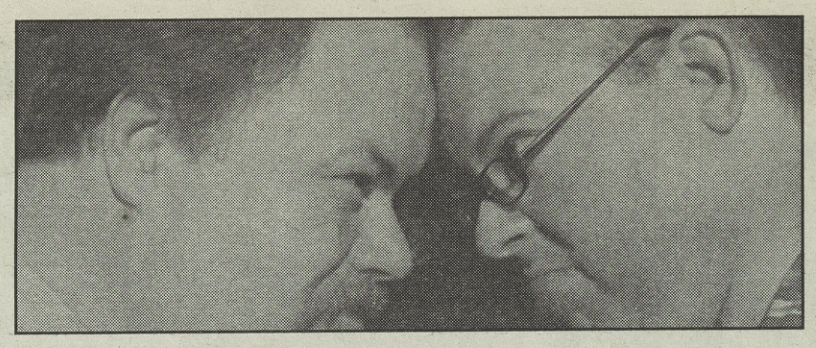
Swanner: There you go. That wasn't so hard was it? I personally think the theatre should hand out swords to all paying costumers, that way the can throw themselves on them when they just can't take it anymore...many of them would be in use after the first ten minutes. *Alexander* is a horrible 3-hour nightmare and giving it any less then five hearty bitchslaps would be too kind. I don't know about Brian but I spent an hour in the theatre waiting for the movie and then three hours watching it and another hour after it bitching about it...and then I had to relive the nightmare writing this. I want those six hours back!



Judd: I think that Oliver Stone should be strapped to a mountain and have his liver pecked out. I like your idea about swords, but the theater floors are already so sticky. Maybe they should pass out hemlock instead. Five bitchslaps—the kind that "Queen" Alexander gave to the Persians when he conquered them.



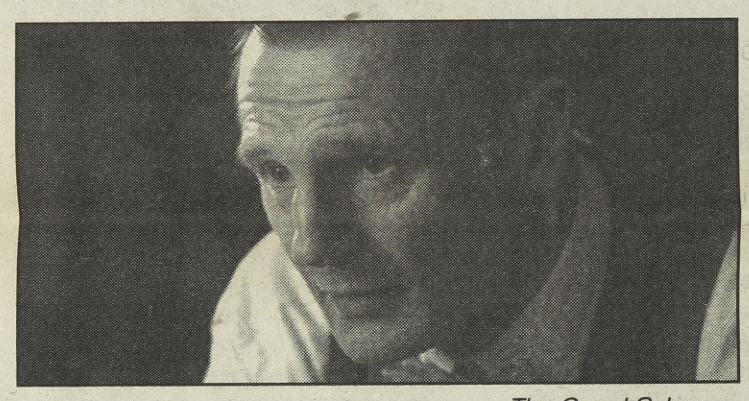
Swanner & Judd



Kinsey movie is off the scale

Swanner: Monday night Brian and I suffered through the disaster know as *Alexander* (which you can read about on the previous page) The next night we went to see another bioflick, *Kinsey*, about the life of Alfred Kinsey. This ia a movie that should serve as the" how to" guide of making bioflicks.

Judd: When I heard that they were making a bioflick of Alfred Kinsey I was excited. My first real introduction to sex was the book *Kinsey's Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*. I was 14 or 15 years old, and my hag bought me a copy at a yard sale (and she still finds the oddest things at yard sales). Thinking back, I couldn't have asked for a better introduction to sex. The book was titillating enough to keep me interested and it wasn't biased by the midwestern morals I would have invariably gotten from my dad (had he ever given me "the talk" that is.)



Swanner: Well...after that trip down memory lane...back to the movie. I thought it was interesting how similar the two films, *Kinsey* and *Alexander* were in plot. Both films start the title characters out as children of fathers who were jackasses and they were both great leaders who took their warriors/works out to battle the oppressor.

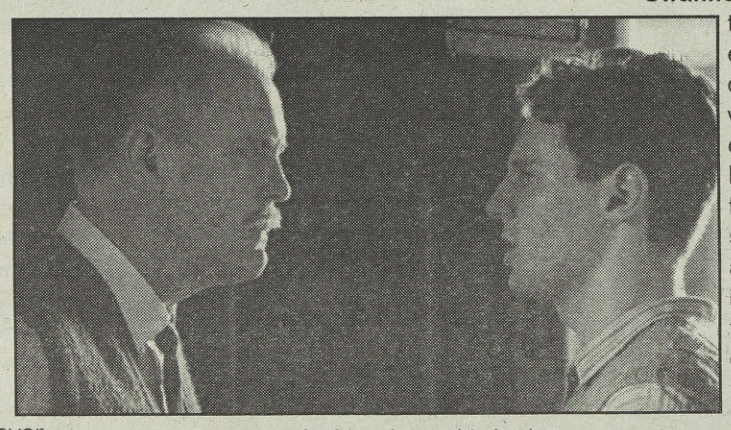
Judd: Interesting comparison.

Swanner: Of course *Kinsey* actually is about sex and *Alexander* avoided it even though the main character was documented to be gay. I make the comparison because it proves that the problem with *Alexander* was the script and direction because even though the bare plots are similar, *Kinsey* has a brilliant script and was directed by someone trying to tell a story and not by someone hoping to sell a lot of DVDs and movie tickets.

Judd: There we go. *Kinsey*, the movie, was not afraid to tackle the subject—and in graphic detail of Alfred Kinsey's work. While *Alexander* glossed over what could be considered taboo, though historically accurate. What surprised me about *Kinsey* was the amount of graphic detail in the movie. I wonder if this movie is going to have the same kind of problems that Alfred Kinsey had when he released his book. You've got to figure that the state of our country is quickly moving towards the puritan and sex-phobic ways of Kinsey's time. He battled abstinence education. He battled the legislation of morality. His work was called smut. I wonder if this movie will be labeled the same?

Swanner: It probably will be, but not to our audience, since I knew pretty much half the people at our screening. Yes, the Religious Wrong people will be all over this film. The Monday Night Football/Desperate Housewives situation will look like nothing compared to this. That 50% of the nation needs to remember that this is an R-rated film and is meant for consenting adults. The acting was great. Even Veronica Cartwright who played Kinsey's mother in a couple scenes was wonderful and Laura Linney should finally win her Oscar. I even loved the subtleness of the aging makeup.

Judd: The acting was very good. I loved Liam Neeson's speech pattern. Yes, Laura Linney was fantastic. I also liked the way the passage of time was shown by the subtle aging, but I think they should have done a better job with Neeson. He always looked the same age; when he visited his father, played by the genius John Lithgow, father and son looked to be the same age. I can't wait to see what this movie stirs up. Already, there was a book published in 1998 titled *Kinsey: Crimes and Consequences: The Grand Scheme and The Red Queen* by Dr. Judith Reisman. In the book, she accuses Kinsey of pedophilia, bestiality, working with the Nazi Party, and that his death at the age 62 was not due to exhaustion and pneumonia but rather due to physical trauma to the body as a result of his sadomasochistic tendencies. Wow. Her other works include, *Soft Porn Plays Hardball*, and *Images of Children, Crime, and Violence in Playboy, Penthouse, and Hustler*. Some of her papers include one called *Crafting Gay Children* and *The Pink Swastika and Holocaust Revisionist History* (both of which you can find on the web). In the latter paper she contends that the leaders of the Nazi party were primarily gay, and gays celebrated the Nazis as demonstrated by the blonde haired, square jawed *Tom of Finland* illustrations (I shit you not!). Dr. Laura, and Focus on the Family endorse her. And the BEST part is—SHE'S RIGHT HERE IN SACRAMENTO!!! I'm willing to bet a shiny nickel that she's gearing up some sort of protest. Though, she was interviewed on the *O'Reilly Factor* back in February 2003 and the Republican Party Monster failed to buy into her not-so-cloaked agenda in contending that Kinsey was a pedophiliac perv. But then if Focus on the Family is using her to tout their agenda, who knows who'll pick up on her work. Especially in these times. In fact in mid-November she spoke before congress requesting them to study 'porn addiction.'



Swanner: Sounds like someone needs an enema. Anyway...back to the movie...again...I thought that Neeson aged well with his character and not so much with the make-up—I hated the tuft of hair in the front but when I looked at some pictures of Alfred Kinsey, there was that tuft. It was interesting watching the fallout of his work in the movie. Hoover, McCarthy and Cohn we're running around accusing people of being communists and homosexuals left and right and here comes Kinsey with a free-love textbook. I can't even imagine how it changed the landscape of the day. Thank god for Alfred Kinsey. I think my favorite scene was when Kinsey tells his wife of his affair. They might as well pluck that scene so they can use it during the Oscars—it was incredible...and now back to the Brian Judd rambling show. Today's topic Dr. Judith Reisman

Judd: No, I'm done. And I'm going to rate Kinsey with only two bitchslaps. In telling Kinsey's story, writer/director Bill Condon left out many facts. He also never really gave us a time frame and he never told us what happened later in Kinsey's life or when and how he died. What about the other seven volumes of the report or that the Kinsey Institute is still in operation today? The plot and the acting were good, but for something that is supposed to be a biography I think too much was left out. I do feel that the movie acts as a strong reminder of what we, as a nation, are going to face in the next four years. And that's a damn shame that over a span of almost 60 years we're still fighting the same asinine battles.



Swanner: Two bitchslaps? I'll give you two bitchslaps! If they included everything it would then be called a "documentary." We want a two-hour movie that deals with the main portion of Kinsey's life. We want wonderful acting and a brilliant funny script. We want great direction and we want all this to pull us in. We got educated and entertained at the same time. *Kinsey* does all these things and more. Finally, Lynn Redgrave's beautiful moment at the end of the film capped this film off for me. It does serve as a reminder of how sexually retarded (and I use that word correctly) we are in this country and what's yet to come. I'm giving it 1/2 a bitchslap for good measure but I promise you that *Kinsey* will be on my list of the best pictures for 2004.



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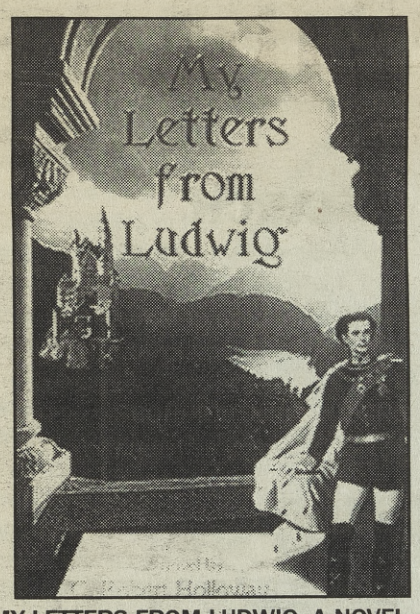
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FICTION

THE SHADES OF TIME AND MEMORY: THE SECOND BOOK OF THE WRAETHTHU HISTORIES, *by Storm Constantine. (TOR/Tom Doherty Associates, 2004, 444 p., $27.95, ISBN 0765303477). (Fantasy & Science Fiction - General; Fantasy & Science Fiction - Gay & Lesbian).* The series, which chronicles the rise of a new race of seductive androgynous beings with awesome powers, has been hailed as a modern fantasy masterpiece, winning an avid international following of devoted readers.

MOIRA ORFEI IN AIGUES-MORTES: A NOVEL, *by Wayne Koestenbaum. (Soft Skull Press, 2004, 214 p., $13.95, ISBN 1932360530). (Gay Fiction).* "This ravishing, dissipated novel enacts a kind of end game of a sensibility via its own secret economy. The disappearing act is Theo Mangrove's, conducted from his Mechanical Street apartment in East Kill, N.Y., where he prepares for the triumphant swan song to a checkered concert career, a last engagement with his idol, the circus star Moira Orfei, at Aigues-Mortes (in southern France).... "Moira Orfei in Aigues-Mortes" is both an enactment and an obituary for a fabulous kind of illusion embodied in the figure of Moira Orfei and her circus art, an illusion that is only viable in the heat of its disappearance." --- Matthew Stadler



MY LETTERS FROM LUDWIG: A NOVEL ABOUT KING LUDWIG II OF BAVARIA, *by C. Robert Holloway. (Xlibris Corporation, 2004, 226 p., $21.99, ISBN 1413464742). (Gay Fiction).* While apprenticing backstage at Richard Wagner's legendary Festival Theatre in Bayreuth, Germany, C.R. Holloway happens onto a handwritten note purporting to be from King Ludwig II. If real, its allegations are so slanderous, they would further stain Wagner's and Ludwig's already sullied reputations, and outrage their descendants and admirers.

THE PHOENIX, *by Ruth Sims. (Writers' Collective, 2005, 344 p., $16.95, ISBN 1932133402). (Gay Fiction).* At fourteen Kit St. Denys brought down his abusive father with a knife. At twenty-one his theatrical genius brought down the house. At thirty his past --- and his forbidden love --- nearly brought down the curtain for good. It's a love story between two men set in Victorian England that transcends time and distance in a society that considers their love an abomination.

BLIND EYE: A BENJAMIN JUSTICE NOVEL, *by John Morgan Wilson. (St. Martin's Minotaur, 2004, 322 p., $14.95, ISBN 031230921X). (Gay Mystery).* Benjamin Justice, a disgraced journalist in his mid-forties, is slowly putting his shattered life back together. Under contract to write his tumultuous life story, Justice is trying to put all the elements of his life into perspective for the first time.

SAVING GRACE: BOOK II IN THE MOON ISLAND SERIES; 2ND EDITION, *by Jennifer Fulton. (Yellow Rose Books, 2004, 167 p., $15.95, ISBN 1932300260). (Lesbian Fiction).* Champion swimmer and Olympic hopeful, Dawn Beaumont has been injured in a car crash she caused. Haunted by guilt over the death of a passenger, her career in ruins, her body damaged and scarred, she flees to Moon Island. Scientist Grace Ramsay is on the island secretly evaluating its potential as a toxic waste dump far from civilization. She decides her cute new neighbor will make for the perfect holiday fling. But Dawn won't play ball and denies she is a lesbian. Beset by troubling nightmares rooted in the past, and increasing ambivalence over her job, Grace sets out to prove otherwise, with unexpected consequences.

STAGE FRIGHT: A JANE LAWLESS MYSTERY, *by Ellen Hart. (St. Martin's Minotaur, 2004, 245 p., $13.95, ISBN 0312317654). (Lesbian Mystery).* Aging theater actor Torald Werness's last curtain call is as a corpse. Murdered after his last performance in his last theatrical production, Minneapolis restaurateur-sleuth Jane Lawless finds his body on stage, impaled on a part of the set. Before long, a series of coincidences places Jane in the role of prime suspect.

SUGAR COOKIE MURDER: A HANNAH SWENSEN HOLIDAY MYSTERY WITH RECIPES, *by Joanne Fluke. (Kensington Publishing Corporation, 2004, 341 p., $16.00, ISBN 075820681X). (Mystery).* The annual Christmas Buffet is the final test of the recipes Hannah has collected for the Lake Eden, Minnesota, Holiday Buffet Cookbook. While Hannah is baking the day's goodies at The Cookie Jar, the evening's plans begin to jell.

ERIK & ISABELLE: FRESHMAN YEAR AT FORESTHILL HIGH, *by Kim Wallace. (Foglight Press, 2004, 234 p., $12.00, ISBN 0975584804). (Youth - Fiction & Nonfiction; P-FLAG).* "Erik & Isabelle" introduces two best friends, high school freshmen, who share their thoughts and feelings with one another as they experience romantic crushes, family drama, growing pains, and personal victories. Sounds like every other teenager, doesn't it? The clincher is, they're both gay.

THE RAINBOW KITE, *by Marlene Fanta Shyer. (Marshall Cavendish, 2002, 205 p., $15.95, ISBN 0761451226). (Youth - Fiction & Nonfiction).* Twelve-year-old Matthew describes the prejudices and struggles that his entire family faces when people learn that his older brother Bennett is gay. Though hard-hitting and sometimes disturbing, this book about a family striving for normalcy in the midst of chaos is relieved by the tongue-in-cheek observations of Matthew, a likeable and perceptive sixth-grader. Always thought-provoking, this book is a remarkable achievement, bringing out into the open a topic once consigned to the closet.

NONFICTION

ANDY WARHOL MEN, *by Andy Warhol. (Chronicle Books, 2004, 255 p., illus., $16.95, ISBN 0811844072). (Art).* Rarely seen and often created for his own delight, Pop artist Andy Warhol's images of men are among his most personal and sensual work. "Andy Warhol Men" showcases hundreds of Warhol's illustrations, paintings, drawings, silkscreens, Polaroid studies, and fine art photographs for the first time in this handsome and intimate volume.

A MUST SEE! BRILLIANT BROADWAY ARTWORK, *by Steven Suskin. (Chronicle Books, 2004, 156 p., illus., $22.95, ISBN 0811842177). (Art; Entertainment).* "A Must See! Brilliant Broadway Artwork" gathers almost two hundred compelling and memorable examples of Broadway artwork, making for a dazzling compendium of graphic design excellence.

THE PLEASURES OF TIME: TWO MEN, A LIFE, *by Stephen Harold Riggins. (Insomniac Press, 2004, 310 p., illus., $16.95, ISBN 1894663462). (Biography).* American-born author Stephen Harold Riggins and French-born author and circus authority Paul Bouissac have been partners for over thirty years. "The Pleasures of Time: Two Men, a Life" is the story of their complex and fascinating relationship—set in Paris, Toronto, Newfoundland and Indiana, with a cast of characters including celebrated musician John Cage and critics Allan Bloom, Michel Foucault and Claude Levi-Strauss—but it is also much more.

THE REAL TRIAL OF OSCAR WILDE, *by Merlin Holland. (Perennial/HarperCollins Publishers, 2004, 340 p., $14.95, ISBN 000715805X). (Biography).* Oscar Wilde had one of literary history's most explosive love affairs with Lord Alfred "Bosie" Douglas. In 1895, Bosie's father, the Marquess of Queensberry, delivered a note to the Albemarle Club addressed to "Oscar Wilde posing as sodomite." With Bosie's encouragement, Wilde sued the Marquess for libel. He not only lost but he was tried twice for "gross indecency" and sent to prison with two years' hard labor. With this publication of the uncensored trial transcripts, readers can for the first time in more than a century hear Wilde at his most articulate and brilliant.

WHERE IS BEAR? *Text by Lesléa Newman; Illustrations by Valeri Gorbachev. (Gulliver Books/Harcourt, 2004 [40 p.], illus., $16.00, ISBN 0152049363). (Children's Books).* In "Where is Bear?" written by Lesléa Newman and illustrated by Valeri Gorbachev, the animals in the forest are playing hide-and-seek, and everyone has been found ... except for the biggest one of all! Where, oh where, could Bear have gone? Is he lost or hurt? Or is there another explanation? One thing is certain: Bear's friends will do whatever it takes to find him. Ready or not ... here they come! For ages 2 to 5.

GAY PRIDE: A CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS GAY AND LESBIAN, *by William J. Mann. (Citadel Press, 2004, 204 p., $15.95, ISBN 0806525630). (Gay & Lesbian Studies).* Here are 101 fabulous reasons to celebrate the rich heritage and vast cultural contributions of gays and lesbians. This inspiring, joyous book triumphantly commemorates the many ways gays and lesbians have profoundly shaped the face of the world's politics, art, literature, music, theatre, cinema, sports, civil rights, and much more.

HOMOSEXUALITY IN GREECE AND ROME: A SOURCEBOOK OF BASIC DOCUMENTS, *by Thomas K. Hubbard, Editor. (University of California Press, 2003, 558 p., illus., $34.95, ISBN 0520234308). (Gay & Lesbian Studies).* The most important primary texts on homosexuality in ancient Greece and Rome are translated into modern, explicit English and collected together for the first time in this comprehensive sourcebook.

HOW LOATHSOME, *by Ted Naifeh and Tristan Crane. (NBM Comics Lit, 2004, 109 p., illus., $13.95, ISBN 1561633879). (Humor).* Catherine Gore finds companionship among people who delve beyond the limits of the status quo: gay, straight, transgendered, and everything in between. However, Catherine's tales encompass lives not as unfamiliar as they might seem at first glance.

IS YOUR DOG GAY? *by Charles Kreloff and Patty Brown; Drawings by Victoria Roberts. (Simon & Schuster, 2004, [64 p.], illus., $11.95, ISBN 0743270770). (Humor).* Authors Charles Kreloff and Patty Brown, along with illustrator Victoria Roberts, have put together this cute little cartoon book that asks the question, "Is Your Dog Gay?" It is bound to get a howl or two out of you as you flip through the pages.



THE PENIS BOOK, *by Joseph Cohen. (Broadway Books, 2004, 108 p., illus., $12.95, ISBN 0767917537). (Humor).* Think you know everything about penises? Bet you don't know what hospitals do with foreskins after they've been snipped away. How fortunes were made in the war against wet dreams. The one song you should never whistle at a urinal, or the woes of working on a "hopping penis" assembly line. "The Penis Book" celebrates the male member like nothing else before. So get ready to learn, laugh, and be downright titillated, too. No matter what your relationship with the penis may be, "The Penis Book" has something for everyone.

THE MILK OF HUMAN KINDNESS: LESBIAN AUTHORS WRITE ABOUT MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS, *by Lori L. Lake, Editor. (Regal Crest Enterprises, 2004, 248 p., $17.95, ISBN 1932300287). (Literature).* "The Milk of Human Kindness: Lesbian Authors Write about Mothers and Daughters" is a collection of stories of love and loss, happiness and heartbreak by some of the brightest stars in lesbian literature.

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Final scores, stats, and team records Women's Basketball League Week 4, Nov. 10th:

MAGALE CHIRO 22 VS. JAMMIN' JO - 46

MAGALE CHIRO (1-1)

Charmaine Magale - 1pt, 1 rebound, 1 assts.
Cheree Robinson - 2 pts, 3 reb.
Jen Fong - 8 pts, 2 reb., 2 steals
Hannah Cross - 9 pts, 5 reb., 2 steals
Kisha Harris - 2 reb., 1 steal
Melissa Kildow - 1 steal
Rachel Raymond - 2 pts, 3 reb.

JAMMIN' JO (1-2)

Bekky Wright - 9 pts
Joan Loucraft - 5 pts
Kim Erlenwein - 3 pts
Marie Straub - 12 pts
Odelia Johns - 7 pts
Yvette Rincon - 10 pts

OUTWORD 45 VS. WHISLER 22

OUTWORD (2-0)

Anna Platz - 13 pts, 4 reb., 4 assts, 1 block, 1 steal
Irma Alvarez - 4 pts, 3 reb., 3 assts
Jeanie Huizar - 4 pts, 4 reb., 2 assts
Kim Saeturn - 3 reb.
Kylee Keroher - 20 pts, 13 reb., 2 assts, 2 blocks
Nancee Nguyen - 1 reb.
Noelle Wiley - 4 pts, 4 reb., 2 assts, 1 block
Trinity Dorantes - 1 reb.

WHISLER (0-2)

Barbara Hall - 5 pts, 3 reb.
Ila Zapanta - 5 pts, 1 reb.
Kim Richard - 4 pts, 2 reb.
Robin Sanchez - 5 pts, 1 re.
Victoria Ciganda - 4 pts, 7 reb., 1 assts

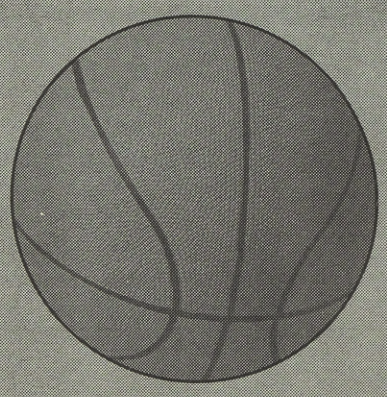
THE DEPOT 37 VS. CLUB 21- 31

THE DEPOT (2-0)

Coral Sage - 16 pts, 6 reb., 2 assts
Jasmine Ewing - 8 pts, 3 reb., 3 assts
Jess Sanders - 2 reb., 3 assts
Justine Wright - 2 reb., 1 assts
Stella - 2 pts
Trey Kenyon - 9 pts, 6 reb.

CLUB 21 (2-1)

Tonia White: 5 pts., 3 reb., 1 block
Anna Leano: 3 reb.
Giovanna Pozzuto: 2 pts. 1 reb.
Melissa Gomez: 6 pts., 2 reb., 1 assts, 1 block
Kerri Garland: 10 pts., 4 reb.
Kristy Schwee: 6 pts., 1 block
Alicia Brown: 2 pts.



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CCH 2004-05 Co-ed REVISED Season Calendar

NOVEMBER

15 - Round robin mini scrimmages against each team
22 - Full scrimmage against one team
29 - Week 1

DECEMBER

06 - Week 2
13 - Week 3
20 - Week 4
27 - Off for Christmas Holiday

JANUARY

03 - Week 5
10 - Week 6
17 - Off for Martin Luther King Day
24 - Week 7
31 - Week 8

FEBRUARY

07 - Week 9
14 - Week 10
21 - Off for President's Day
28 - Playoff Quarterfinals

MARCH

07 - Playoff Semifinals
14 - Playoff Finals

CAPITAL CITY HOOPSTERS BASKETBALL GLBT BASKETBALL LEAGUE IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THEIR SIXTH AND FINAL TEAM SPONSOR FOR THEIR 3RD ANNUAL CO-ED SEASON: THE BOLT! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE BOLT HAS SPONSORED A TEAM AND WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THEM TO THE LEAGUE AND LET THEM KNOW THAT WE ARE REALLY APPRECIATIVE OF THEIR GENEROSITY. JASON BRYDEN WILL SERVE AS TEAM CAPTAIN.

NOVEMBER

29 Week 1 Leyva's vs. The Bolt VRP vs. Metro PCS Faces vs. Club 21

DECEMBER

06 Week 2 Club 21 vs. VRP Metro PCS vs. Leyva's Faces vs. The Bolt
13 Week 3 The Bolt vs. VRP Faces vs. Leyva's Metro PCS vs. Club
20 Week 4 Metro PCS vs. Faces The Bolt vs. Club 21 VRP vs. Leyva's
27 Off for Christmas Holiday

JANUARY

03 Week 5 Leyva's vs. Club 21 VRP vs. Faces MetroPCS vs. Bolt
10 Week 6 Leyva's vs. The Bolt VRP vs. Metro PCS Faces vs. Club 21
17 Off for Martin Luther King Day
24 Week 7 Club 21 vs. VRP Metro PCS vs. Leyva's Faces vs. The Bolt
31 Week 8 The Bolt vs. VRP Faces vs. Leyva's Metro PCS vs. Club

FEBRUARY

7 Week 9 Metro PCS vs. Faces The Bolt vs. Club 21 VRP vs. Leyva's
14 Week 10 Leyva's vs. Club 21 VRP vs. Faces MetroPCS vs. Bolt
21 Off for President's Day
Playoffs:
28 Quarterfinals #3 vs. #6 #4 vs. #5 #1 and #2

MARCH

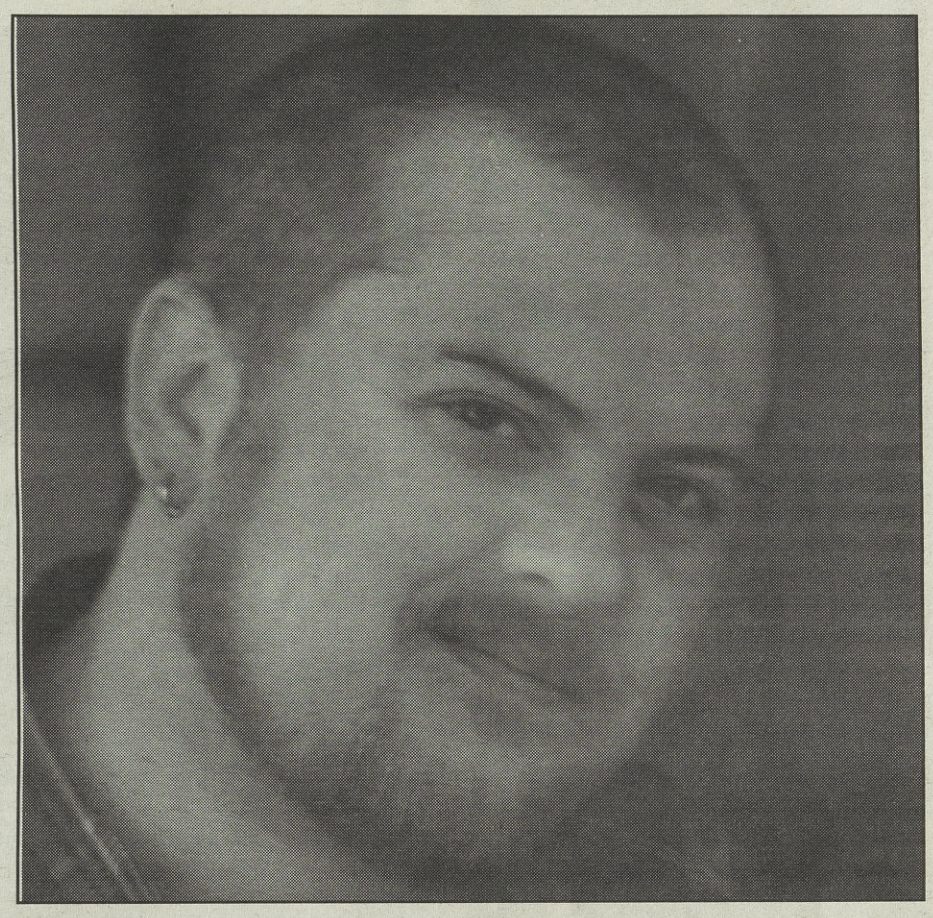
07 Semifinal #1 vs winner of #4/#5 #2 vs. winner of #3/#6 no game
14 Finals 3rd/4th Place Game Championship game no game

2004-2005 KINGS LINE-UP

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	TV NETWORK
Tue.	Nov. 2	@Dallas	5:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Wed.	Nov. 3	@San Antonio	5:30 p.m.	News10
Sat.	Nov. 6	@Houston	5:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Nov. 9	Toronto	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Wed.	Nov. 10	@Seattle	7:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Sat.	Nov. 13	@Phoenix	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Sun.	Nov. 14	Denver	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Nov. 16	Chicago	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Nov. 19	Memphis	7:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Sun.	Nov. 21	Milwaukee	6:00 p.m.	News10
Tue.	Nov. 23	Houston	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Nov. 26	@L.A. Lakers	7:30 p.m.	News10
Sun.	Nov. 28	Minnesota	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Nov. 30	@Memphis	5:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Wed.	Dec. 1	@New Orleans	5:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Dec. 3	Indiana	7:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Sun.	Dec. 5	Boston	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Dec. 7	Charlotte	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Dec. 10	@Minnesota	5:00 p.m.	News10
Sat.	Dec. 11	@Indiana	5:00 p.m.	News10
Tue.	Dec. 14	@Milwaukee	5:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Thu.	Dec. 16	L.A. Lakers	7:30 p.m.	TNT
Sun.	Dec. 19	New Orleans	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Dec. 21	Washington	7:00 p.m.	News10
Thu.	Dec. 23	Miami	7:30 p.m.	TNT
Sun.	Dec. 26	Golden State	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Dec. 31	@Utah	5:00 p.m.	News10
Sun.	Jan. 2	San Antonio	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Jan. 4	@New York	4:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Wed.	Jan. 5	@Toronto	4:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Jan. 7	@Atlanta	4:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Sat.	Jan. 8	@New Orleans	5:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Jan. 11	Denver	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Thu.	Jan. 13	Utah	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Sat.	Jan. 15	L.A. Clippers	7:00 p.m.	News10
Mon.	Jan. 17	@ L.A. Clippers	12:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Jan. 18	Portland	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Thu.	Jan. 20	Cleveland	7:30 p.m.	TNT
Sun.	Jan. 23	San Antonio	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Jan. 25	New Jersey	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Thu.	Jan. 27	@San Antonio	6:30 p.m.	TNT
Fri.	Jan. 28	@Houston	6:30 p.m.	News10
Sun.	Jan. 30	@Minnesota	12:30 p.m.	News10
Tue.	Feb. 1	Seattle	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Wed.	Feb. 2	@Golden State	7:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Feb. 4	New York	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Sat.	Feb. 5	@Portland	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Feb. 8	Phoenix	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Thu.	Feb. 10	@Seattle	7:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Feb. 11	Dallas	7:30 p.m.	News10
Sun.	Feb. 13	@Boston	3:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Feb. 15	@Chicago	5:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Wed.	Feb. 16	@New Jersey	4:30 p.m.	News10
Tue.	Feb. 22	Atlanta	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Thu.	Feb. 24	@Dallas	6:30 p.m.	TNT
Sat.	Feb. 26	@Philadelphia	4:30 p.m.	News10
Sun.	Feb. 27	@Washington	3:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Mar. 1	@Charlotte	4:00 p.m.	News10
Wed.	Mar. 2	@Orlando	4:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Mar. 4	@Miami	5:00 p.m.	News10
Sun.	Mar. 6	Detroit	12:30 p.m.	News10
Tue.	Mar. 8	Memphis	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Mar. 11	L.A. Clippers	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Sun.	Mar. 13	Houston	12:30 p.m.	News10
Tue.	Mar. 15	Orlando	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Thu.	Mar. 17	@Golden State	7:30 p.m.	TNT
Sat.	Mar. 19	@L.A. Clippers	7:30 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Sun.	Mar. 20	Golden State	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Tue.	Mar. 22	Portland	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Thu.	Mar. 24	Dallas	7:00 p.m.	News10
Sat.	Mar. 26	@Denver	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Mon.	Mar. 28	Philadelphia	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Wed.	Mar. 30	@Detroit	4:30 p.m.	News10
Fri.	Apr. 1	@Cleveland	5:00 p.m.	News10
Sun.	Apr. 3	Minnesota	12:30 p.m.	News10
Tue.	Apr. 5	Seattle	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Fri.	Apr. 8	@Portland	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Sun.	Apr. 10	L.A. Lakers	12:30 p.m.	News10
Fri.	Apr. 15	@L.A. Lakers	7:30 p.m.	News10
Sat.	Apr. 16	@Phoenix	7:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Mon.	Apr. 18	@Utah	6:00 p.m.	Comcast SportsNet
Wed.	Apr. 20	Phoenix	7:30 p.m.	News10

JC and the Inquisitionats

By M.A. Ross/Q-Ragg



I WENT TO AN ATHEIST AND FREETHINKERS RALLY IN OLD TOWN SACRAMENTO A FEW WEEKS AGO AND I WAS ASTOUNDED AT WHAT A SAD AND PATHETIC TURNOUT IT WAS. THIS IS REALLY... SAD AND PATHETIC. I CAN'T BELIEVE IN THIS DAY AND AGE THERE ARE SO FEW OF US WILLING TO ADMIT TO THE FACT THAT THEY DO NOT SUBSCRIBE TO A RELIGIOUS DOGMA.

When I have to tell people that I am an Atheist, (and I do have to tell them, because most people just assume that I am christian.) they inevitably want to know why? I tell them it's the facts... the physical facts of science, the notorious facts of religious history and the first-hand facts of my own life. I know it's difficult to defy the laws of tradition, but if humankind wants to make it in this expansive universe, it's got to start with the exposure of religion for what it was and has become.

The first religions people practiced were based on primitive enlightenment of the then unexplainable. People wanted to know about the world around them and they wanted to know about themselves. They wanted to know why that big hot thing in the sky came up over here and went down over there. People wanted to know where they came from and what happens after they died. They also wanted to know if there was someone or something they could appeal to if things didn't go their way. So gleaning from the physical world around them people hypothesized explanations that they could wrap their brains around, thus satisfying most of their desires for knowledge of the then unexplainable. So to anyone armed with this divine knowledge all seemed right with the world. That is until others started to point out inconsistencies in this purported information and doubts about dogma started to arise.

Concentrating religious power to a few central people (priests, holy men, shaman, etc.) would make religion become organized thus becoming the first form of governing large amounts of people. These ecclesiastics were the ones chosen to instruct others in the ways of the world. As anyone who has gained wisdom knows that with knowledge comes powers & responsibilities. People came to these ecclesiastics for answers, guidance, help or simply peace of mind. When these people in spiritual power had their 'world order' threatened by people asking a lot of hieratical questions; they had to do something about it or watch their power slip away. They had to have a tighter control over who would receive this divine information and harshly castigate those who tried to expose some of their more extreme tenets. Most religions rely on an omni-present deity authority figure to watch over lowly mortals and keep them in line. When that didn't work these ecclesiastics would take matter into their own hands and use that same omni-present deity to justify their by-any-means-necessary actions to hold on to power. Many of these religions have softened their "teaching methods" with time, but many still subscribe to the same dogma that brought them to those actions in the first place.

These days' religions still try to provide people with answers and help to their worldly problems. They also offer places for people to network with like-minded folks and a place to turn when life has them on the ropes; it reminds me of the theme song from Cheers. When I want to meet with like-minded people I turn to the Internet or to one of the clubs or organizations I belong to. People tell me that they need religion, that it provides they them with peace of mind, yeah well so do meditation, a good cry, a nap or a glass of good wine. I have also been told that I must have a religion to have a virtuous moral structure. Sorry, but I do not need a big bad benevolent daddy holding an invitation to a mythical utopia over my head to be a moral person. I heard Dr? Laura say once that her "god's laws are not based on emotion." I'm here to prove that A: I'm not a fucking "biological mistake!" and B: Once again she is wrong. All of her god's laws are indeed based on emotion. Well, actually the prevention there of... let me explain.



Almost every religious commandment is based on NOT putting someone into an objectionable emotional state. Commandments like thou shall not kill, thou shall not steal, honor thy father and mother, etc. are based on the negative emotional responses that would happen if someone broke these laws. Good concepts, if people choose to follow them without making exceptions. I choose by my own free will to be a good person & to do good deeds, because I want to set an example so that others might choose the same. I can see where some people may need a special place to go and a big bad daddy to watch over them, put themselves through the motions and make a grand spectacle of it all; but I just don't get it and I doubt I ever will. Is it that challenging to treat people the same way you wish to be treated? It's not that hard a concept! I get it!

BART SIMPSON: DAD, WHAT RELIGION ARE WE?

HOMER SIMPSON: OH... YOU KNOW THE ONE WITH ALL THE WELL-MEANING RULES THAT DON'T APPLY TO REAL LIFE? UM, CHRISTIANITY!

If there were one determining factor that lead me to become an Atheist, I would have to say that it was the judeo-christian religions and the people who practice some of its more rabid dogmas that drove me to it. I don't mind if people want to observe their religions, what I do mind is when people's religions insist that I follow. I for one am sick and tired of christians martyring themselves to me about how *I've got to follow the 2000 year old life philosophy of a jewish carpenter! A life* philosophy that was not even written by the man himself! Why do I have to base my life on a text that has been translated from ancient Hebrew then ancient Greek then Latin and then English! To further complicate things, it has been re-written & re-worded about 1000 times over along the way by kings & clergy (someone should separate those two!) to fit their sick & twisted megalomaniac power struggles over the populace. Enough is enough!

Another reason that I abstained from christanity & it so-called followers was the abhorrent treatment of not only women & people of color, but of homosexuals and even other religions for Chrysler sake! Frankly I don't know why any homosexual would want to be a christian? I don't understand why anyone would want to be a part of a group with scripture that spells out in black and white that they are an abomination to the central deity? That's like sending a mailer to Al Franken, to see if he wants to join the KKK! Christianity claims to be a loving and peaceful religion and I'm sure it had good intentions once, but its bloody sandal prints in histories dust and the actions of some of its more fanatical followers have proven time and again otherwise to me. Those gay christians that stand by other christians who give in to all of the archaic rules of this primitive survival guide are just kidding themselves. They are like the battered and bruised souls that stand by their abusive spouses in the name of love. (Remember: love doesn't come with a side of pummeling!) So many homosexuals have been murdered in the name of a *christian god that I refuse to believe any homosexual in their right mind would* stay in that lifestyle. Oh yes, that's right! Religion is a "lifestyle!" One has to choose a religion; it doesn't choose you, and I choose no, thank you! If you don't like what I've written, then take the advice of the late great Bill Hicks, who says "Be a good christian and forgive me."

MROSS@Q-RAGG.COM

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4 FREEDOMS OF SPEECH OF WORSHIP FROM FEAR FROM WANT

Hot Latin Nights around the Bay Area

By Ricky Diaz Anaya/Q-Ragg



GLORIA DELTR



MS BIANCA CRUZ



MC DORIS TRAVESTI

There are many venues in Sacramento and the bay area that provide an all Latin experience for it's diverse clientele. Nearby, is Latin Nights at Faces Nightclub in Sacramento. Where every Tuesday night, you can dance to your favorite Latin hits from all around the world courtesy of DJ David Andersen. David not only plays the most recent music on the charts, but he goes out of his way to play your requests.

Dance to Reaggeton, Cumbia, Merengue, Salsa, Rock en Espanol, Popular, etc… Each evening at midnight, you'll enjoy entertainment courtesy of Bianca Cruz, the MC. Bianca, a sassy gal, enjoys getting the audience to participate in special contests like Best Dancer and even Amateur Stripper. These shows are not only crowd pleasers, they entertain the participants of the Sexy Underwear contest too. If you show up one night, you might see your best friend in a totally different light!

Once a month, Radio Romantica 104.3 FM show up at Faces to promote the night club and its shows. Radio Romantica is an all Spanish station from Sacramento. Last week while they were there, guest were treated to four different performers impersonating famous Latin stars dressing, singing and dancing like their chosen performer. This time, the crowd goes wild as they demand an encore of their favorite rendition.

For those Sacramento folks who enjoy a bay area getaway, I recommend Lidos Nightclub in San Jose. Each Monday and Wednesday they pack the club with between 200-400 club goers.

DJ Jessie spins a variety of Cumbia, Merengue, Reaggeton, Bachata, Rock en Espanol and favorites from around the world. MC Doris host a special show at midnight to entertain guests with acts such as Best Legs, Male and Female Stripper Review, Plays, and spectacular Female Impersonators. In September Doris Travesti Show held a special Beauty Pageant with 15 female impersonator contestants.

The contest was held in three parts in celebration of Mexico's Independence from 600 years of oppressive rule by Spain. This particular show was called "Ms Lidos Fiestas Patrias" (translated Ms Lidos Independence Celebration).

Vanessa Bautista, originally born in Guadalajara, Jalisco won the three stage contest. Stage 1 included over 15 participants wearing a traditional Mexican dress from their state or region of choice. Stage 2 was best talent act where participants dressed, acted, and sang like their particular Mexican artist. Lastly, part 3 was a best bathing suit contest. Not an easy feat to do; but many spectacular suits covering some to nearly none!

Faces Night Club, 2000 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 448-7798
Lidos Night Club, 30 S 1st St in San Jose, CA 95113 (408) 298-4318



MS. LIDOS



MS. VANESSA BAUTISTA



TRADITIONAL DRESS



Dear Mother, Recently I had a moment right out of Queer as Folk. I was in the bathroom peeing when one of my new coworkers came in and out of all the urinals free, took the one next to mine. Next thing I know, we're in one of the stalls going at it like crazy. It was one of the best sexual experiences I have ever had but nothing to risk my job over. Now whenever I head toward the bathroom, he comes in a few seconds behind, expecting it to happen again. I've made every excuse from late reports to meetings to holding it in all day until finally gave in a second time. He isn't getting the subtle hints that I'm not interested again. How do I end it without it blowing up in my face and losing my job? Signed, Queer As Folk Fan

Honey, first of all mother is not an advocate of work place relationships. However they do work out for some. You need to decide if you want to continue to have sex with this co-worker. If so take an adult approach to the situation. Pull them aside or better yet invite them to have coffee away from work with you and lay down some ground rules. Like not playing at work where it will cost you both your jobs if caught. If you decide you don't want to continue enjoying this persons company then be an adult and tell them so. Avoiding dealing with it solves nothing. *Love Mother*

Dear Mother, I have been with my husband for eight years. I've indulged him in a lot of phases of his life. From Feng Shui to the Hollywood diet to a private escapade with another couple, I have been there for him. A week ago he came to me and told me he believed he's transsexual. It wasn't a surprise, I mean the box of women's clothing in the attic hasn't exactly escaped my attention. But now he tells me he wants to have the surgery to become a woman. I love him but I want a husband, not a wife. And frankly, he makes an ugly woman. I would be embarrassed to be in public with him looking like that. Is it wrong to tell him I don't want him to do this? Signed, Anita Mann

Girl, I highly recommend you tell your husband how you feel and find out exactly why he thinks he needs to do this. I do believe that counseling for your husband and you by a therapist that has a back ground in treating sexual confusion and family situations. This might take some research and asking for help at the lambda community center. One thing is for sure you need to make your feeling known. This is no easy fix for you or your husband. *Love Mother*

Dear Mother, My father and his third wife have been separated for a year. He asked her for a divorce and she doesn't want one. She is still in love with him. The other day we bumped into each other and I realized that she had no idea that my father has been living with another woman since their separation. I almost spilled the beans, but suddenly I wondered if I should. It's really none of my business to begin with, but after knowing he's been lying to her, I'm torn. Should I tell her it's really over and to let him go? Signed, Son or Rat

I am a firm believer in honesty and it seems your father is not. This is not something I can decide for you but honey I will tell you. In my experience it's better to tell someone something they may not want to hear, rather than be labeled an accomplice when the truth finally does come out. It sounds like he is the kind of man that wants his cake and eat it too and you shouldn't let the fact that he's your father keep you from doing what you feel is right. *Love Mother*

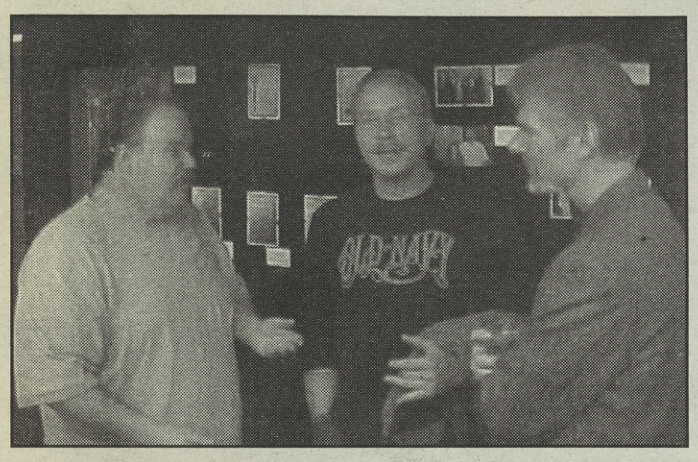
Dear Mother, At my birthday party a few days ago, I was surprised to find an old friend had made a surprise visit. He and I had been intimately close years ago, and I was startled by how much he has changed. The change isn't good, I realized he was on some sort of drugs. I was horrified by his behavior. The next day he sent me an email telling me he wants to rekindle our past. I told him I didn't think that was a good idea and then asked him if he was a drug user. He says he is and that he is seeking help but would like us to date while he is seeking therapy. What do you think? Clean in Sacramento

My dear you need to be careful here. It's always good to be a friend to someone that is honestly trying to clean up from drugs or alcohol. However I believe it is one of the rules of the twelve step program to not enter into a relationship for the first year of sobriety. Honey I think you should be supportive but leave the sexual relationship for a better time. Tell him you support him getting clean but want to save the sex for his one year of being clean celebration. It will give you both something to look forward to as well as giving yourself some time to see if he is serious about getting clean. *Love Mother*

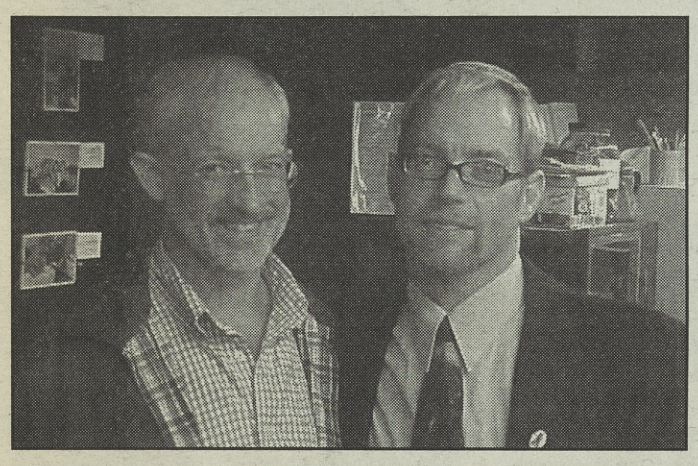
EMAIL MOM AT: TALKTOMOTHER@Q-RAGG.COM

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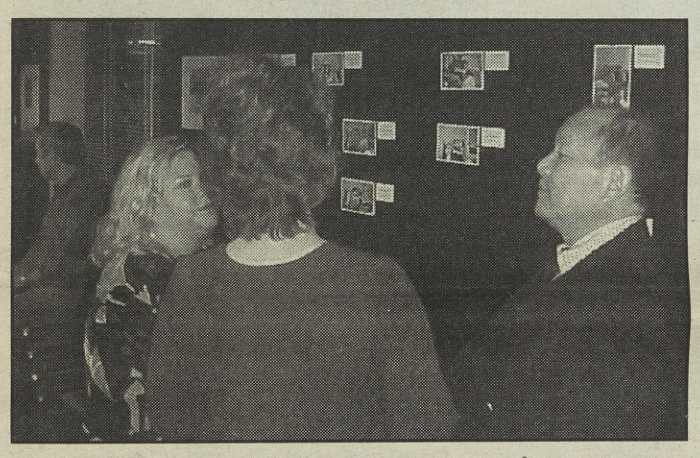
LLACE exhibit honors memory of Gail Lang



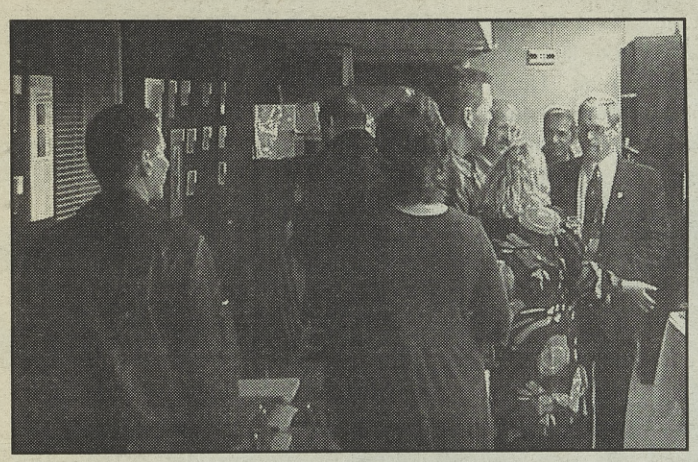














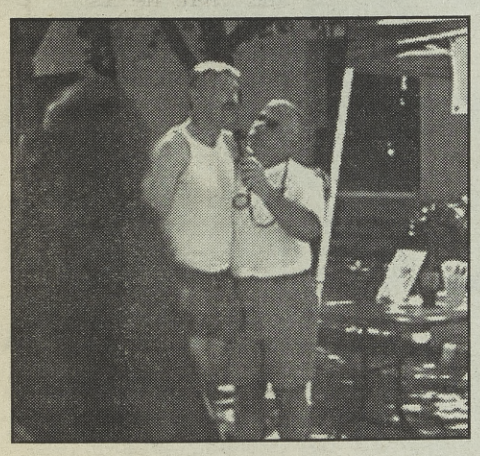
Gail's Lang's final message to our community:

I want to tell all of you how proud I am of the Sacramento community, and how proud I am of the Library and what we've all accomplished here. This is not all about me—I might be the one who is recognized, but as far as the library is concerned, it took a lot of us to accomplish the things that we've done. Each and every volunteer, every librarian, every board member, the public who supported us, all our members—I want all of you to come to the library. I want you to come and sit on the bench to talk to me. And I want you to know I only want good gossip. I am just so grateful, and so fortunate, there are just so many people who have touched me in so many portions of my life and the bonds between us are unique. I want all of you to know, I'm really happy. What's happened in my life in the last few weeks shows *that this is what we mean when we say "we're family." This is* what it's all about. I want to thank Dr. Jennifer, Nurse Sherry, and everyone who signed the book here at the house, and even those that couldn't. And everyone who came to see me. And I wish you all happy trails.

Gail

Contributions to LLACE in Gail's memory may be made to: Lavender Library, Archives & Cultural Exchange, P.O. Box 987, Sacramento, CA 95812

Volunteer Recognition: LLACE's Buzz Haughton



Buzz Haughton interviewed by Sam Catalano on Being Gay Today

Some people say reading is a lost art. I say it's not lost just that it's under appreciated. When reading suffers so does knowledge and history. Unfortunately the sanctuaries of reading (libraries) suffer too.

Tucked away in the corner of an office building on 21st street between N St. & O St. is the little known and rarely utilized Lavender Library. Which is really such a shame, because every book, periodical and other multi media sources of information (DVDs, Videocassettes, etc, etc) in this library is completely dedicated to us in the GLBT community. I spent some time with one of the volunteers at the Lavender Library and got this interview.

What is your name?
Buzz

Why do you volunteer?
I work in the library at UC Davis and I think it's important now that Gail Lang has passed on. She's like a guardian angel watching over us here. She used to take care of the library at the Lambda Center when it was over there. She thought it was important that the library have it's own space.

How long have you volunteered for Lavender Library?
Since 2000

What kind of services do you provide for Lavender Library?
Well, I'm here every weekend keeping the doors open. I also help maintain a file with local news stories about the GLBT community, plus the upkeep of the library.

Does volunteering take up much of your time?
Most weekends…

What do you think of the staff at Lavender Library?
I enjoy the people who work here. We get a lot of students who come in and think that it will be easy and they don't end up staying too long, because they become disappointed with the work. It's a very detail oriented job, if you're not into the details, then being a librarian is probably not the right profession to look into.

If someone were thinking of volunteering what do you think you could you say to get him or her to volunteer?
Well, there's always something to do and if you enjoy the detail there is plenty of that.

Any closing remarks?
We do not use tax money to keep the library open, we rely on strictly on donations (Thanks Sac Valley Bears!) and the fees we charge for checking out items. It's a ten-dollar base fee for a library card to check out one item at a time and then up from there. We are open from 6-8 Thursdays, 7-9 Fridays and noon-6 Saturdays and Sundays. We have a web site www.lavenderlibrary.org and we wish more people would come in and utilize our services. (Me too Buzz… Me too…)

Interview conducted by M.A. Ross. To nominate someone for volunteer recognition email editor@q-ragg.com

Q-EVENTS

To get your event listed, send your press release to: Q-Ragg, 717 K Street, Suite 519, Sacramento, CA 95814 or fax 916.442.4009 You can also send your info to us in an email at events@q-ragg.com. Remember to include the who, what, where, when & why of your event!

December

1 Wednesday
WORLD AIDS DAY

17th Annual World AIDS Day, 6pm-8:30pm, Pioneer United Church Free admittance, 6-6:30 candlelight March Starting from CARES, 1500 21st St.to Pioneer church, 2700 L St., for info: 914-6333

2 Thursday

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

3 Friday

Drag Queen Bingo, Stonewall Democratic Club, FACES Video Bar, 20th and K Sts. 6pm, $1 per game

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

20th Anniversary Holiday Show, **Sacramento Men's Chorus**, $12/$15, sacmenschorus.org

Jill Knight, Wyndance Women's Center, 2400 Glendale Ln., 8pm, 21 & over, Tickets are $10/$15, jamminjo.com

4 Saturday

4 Saturday

Jammin' Jo & The Roni & Rochelle Trio Christmas Party, Club 21, 6pm, $10, 21 & over

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

20th Anniversary Holiday Show, **Sacramento Men's Chorus**, $12/$15, sacmenschorus.org

5 Sunday

Pancake Breakfast, Sac. Valley Leathermen, Community Fundraiser, 10am-1pm, FACES 20th And K Sts, $6 All You Can Eat, SVLclub.org

20th Anniversary Holiday Show, Sacramento Men's Chorus, $12/$15, sacmenschorus.org

8 Wednesday

Lambda Center Christmas Gala, Mayor Heather Fargo, 6-9pm, Wisteria Hall 3830 U Street, rsvp@lambdasac.org or (916) 442-0185 ext 107.

9 Thursday

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

10 Friday

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

11 Saturday

Second Saturday Gallery Watch LLACE, 6pm, 1414 21st St, 492-0558, Lavenderlibrary.org

Uptown Studios, 912 1/2 J St, 446-1082

2nd Saturday Potluck, Sac Gender Assoc., 6:30pm-9pm, Lambda Center, 1927 L St, 364-7212

Rudolph's Toy Shop, Sacramento Symphonic Winds, 7:30pm, El Camino High, 4300 El Camino Ave, Free

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

16 Thursday

MCC Transgender Support Group, 6:30pm -9pm, Sacramento MCC Cathedral Of Promise, 10500 Chaplain Ave, Mather AFB, 916.364.4325

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

17 Friday

Murder Mystery Wine Train, Benefiting Breast Cancer/Focus Foundation, Stonewall Democrats & CGNIE, Hosted By Marghe Covino, Gayiel Von, Johnathan Cameron And Mike Johnston. FACES.net or CGNIE.com, Reserve By Nov. 16, $375, Info: 448-7798.

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

18 Saturday

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

25 Saturday
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

30 Thursday

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

31 Friday

Cabaret with Gayiel Von, 7-10pm, Delta King, 1000 Front Street

January 2005

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Sacramento Theatre

A Christmas Carol

Sacramento Theatre Company. Performances continue at 12:30 and 7pm Weds and Thurs, 7pm Fri (except Dec. 24), 2 and 7pm Sat, 2pm Sun, 12:30pm Dec. 24 (no performance Dec. 25 and Jan. 1), through Jan. 2. 1419 H St. $36 general, discounts for seniors, students and groups. (916) 446-7501.

S.I.T.B. (Stable in the Back)

Holiday musical written and directed by James Wheatley, presented by Celebration Arts. It opens at 8pm next Friday and continues at 8pm Thurs-Sat, 2pm Sun (no performances Dec. 24-26), through Dec. 31. 4469 D St. $15 general, $13 seniors, students and SARTA members, $8 Thurs. (916) 455-2787.

And to All a Good Night

B Street Theatre reprises artistic director Buck Busfield's warm-hearted comedy about bumbling burglars on Christmas Eve. It continues at 6:30pm Tuesdays and Weds, 8pm Thurs and Fri, 5 and 9pm Sat, 2pm Sun and Wednesday, Dec. 8 and 22, 7pm Jan. 2 (no performances on Christmas and New Year's day). B Street Theatre, 27th and B streets. $20 Tuesdays-Thurs and Sun, $25 Fri and Sat. (916) 443-5300.

Backwater Park

The Actor's Theatre of Sacramento presents Laurie Blazich's first play. It continues at 8pm Fri and Sat, 2pm Sun, through Dec. 5. 1616 Del Paso Blvd. $10-$14. (916) 925-6579.

A Garbeau's Christmas

Directed by John Lee and choreographed by Nicole Koch with musical direction by Mark Ferreira. It continues at 8pm Thurs-Sat, Dec. 7 and 14 (dinner seating at 6pm), 2:30pm Sun and Dec. 9 (brunch seating at 1pm), through Dec. 23. Garbeau's Dinner Theatre, 12401 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. $34-$39 general dinner and show; $21-$26 dinner and show for ages 12 and younger; $20 general show only, $8 students show only. (916) 985-6361.

The Guys

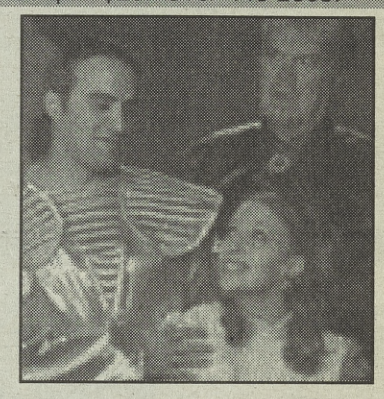
A New York city fire captain must eulogize eight men who were under his command during 9/11. Beyond the Proscenium Productions in association with the Firefighters Burn Institute. It continues at 8pm Fri and Sat, 2 and 7pm Sun, through Dec. 19. California Stage, 25th and R streets. $16 general, $13 seniors, students and SARTA members ($3 from each ticket will be donated to the Firefighters Burn Institute). (916) 444-3232.

The Laramie Project

The powerful docudrama tells the story of 21-year-old Matthew Shepard, who was a victim of a hate crime. Based on interviews of people of Laramie, Wyo., by the Tectonic Theatre Project. It continues at 8pm today and Saturday, 2pm Sunday (last show). American River College Theatre, 4700 College Oak Drive. $9 general, $7 seniors, students and SARTA members. (916) 484-8234.

Pageant

A musical spoof of beauty pageants with men portraying the women contestants. The laugh-filled satire is presented by the Studio Theatre. It continues at 8pm Thurs and Fri, 5 and 9pm Sat, 2pm Sun, through Dec. 19. 1028 R St. $17-$20. (916) 446-2668.



Return to the Forbidden Planet

The City Theatre at Sacramento City College presentation. It continues at 8pm Fri and Sat, 2pm Sun, Dec. 4, 9 and 11, through Dec. 12. Art Court Theatre, 3835 Freeport Blvd. $12 general, $10 seniors, students with ID, SARTA members and people with disabilities, $7 matinees. Children ages 6 and younger will not be admitted. (916) 558-2228.

The Vagina Monologues

SacActors.Com produce and direct Eve Ensler's funny and provocative play with rotating casts. Performances continue at 8pm today, 7 and 9pm Fri and Sat, 2pm Sunday, 2 and 4pm Dec. 5, 12 and 19 (last show). Wm. J. Geery Theater, 2130 L St. $14.50 general, $12.50 seniors and members of the performing industry. (916) 451-4152.

Anything Goes

Musical comedy presented by the Davis Musical Theatre Company. It continues at 8:15pm Fri and Sat and 2:15pm Sun, through Dec. 5. Varsity Theatre, 616 Second St., Davis. $15 general, $12 seniors, students. (530) 756-3682.

The Music Man

Meredith Willson's tribute to small-town America at the turn of the century, presented by Magic Circle Theatre. It continues at 8pm Fri and Sat and 2pm Sun, through Dec. 18. Tower Theatre, 421 Vernon St., Roseville. $21 general, $18 seniors, students, $6 for ages 11 and younger. (916) 782-1777.



Six Characters in Search of an Author

Presented by the UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance, directed by Granada artist-in-residence Irina Brown. It continues at 8pm next Friday and Dec. 4, and 2pm Dec. 5 (last show). Main Theatre, UC Davis. $14 general, $9 students and children. (530) 754-2787.

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